

THE ILLUSTRATED CRYSTAL PALACE GAZETTE

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THE "ILLUSTRATED CYCLOPÆDIA."

THIS was one of the phrases by which the Directors of the Crystal Palace Company described to the Queen and people, on the day of inauguration, the great national work so far completed. If aught that was said on the steps of the dais had been audible beyond its circumference, so happy an expression would, doubtless, have been rewarded by a burst of applause. And if the Address had not been so unjustly long as to deter the general reader from its perusal, this, its almost solitary gem of rhetoric, would not have escaped the frequent quotation which marks a verbal success. We employ it thus prominently as a text for some more specific discoursing than we have yet indulged on the educational uses of the Crystal Palace.

Neither "illustrations" nor cyclopædias are of very recent origin. Macaulay has vindicated, in some brilliant passages, and in more than one place, the Athenians of old from the reproach of ignorance, cast upon them by Dr. Johnson, in one of the conversations which Boswell has reported. An educated people, Sir? why, they had no books!—was the substance of the reproach. They had something as good as most books, and better than very many—is the substance of the reply: they had Apelles and Phidias for their authors; they saw Euripides perform in his own tragedies; they heard Herodotus recite his history, and Demosthenes deliver his own orations. Indisputably, the Athenians were the most cultivated people of antiquity; and to what but to their pre-eminence in the arts can this glorious superiority be attributed?—While the builders of the Alhambra were compiling the first encyclopædias, the builders of our Christian churches were writing the people's books in stone. Such art as then existed was employed in the illustration of such literature as then existed. The Church being

the only institution that had survived the wreck of empire, the subjects of illustration were necessarily of the Church sort. Bible incidents and truths were told by the brush and the chisel. Morals were taught in painted proverbs. Devotion was stimulated by kneeling to images. It was one of the unfortunate incidence of the ages of purification and struggle which followed, that artistic teaching was suspended; and the nascent energies of the press almost monopolized by the battlers for creeds and politics. But with the demand for a popular and more comprehensive literature, came also the supply of artistic aid. A painted picture was necessarily the ex-

clusive possession of affluence. Engravings enriched the parlours of modest competence, without stealing from the galleries of the great. But it was not till the art of cutting in wood was applied to the illustration of common books that an illustrated cyclopædia was possible—and the arrival of that day we judge a scarce less important epoch than the invention of printing.

Still, how imperfect a thing is the dictionary of knowledge, in columns of close, small print, and little "cuts" that neither satisfy curiosity nor tempt the eye! We buy it—and terrible is the cost thereof; to a workman the savings of many years; to a schoolboy, an impossible attainment, except as a gift, and then nearly impossible of conveyance. We look through it—lay it aside volume by volume, with a due sense of its dull worthiness—and would never open it again but for the purpose of reference. From this to an edifice translucent as should be the temple of truth—gay and yet impressive as should be the palace of art—an edifice every apartment of which is a chapter of science or literature, and no single chapter wanting—an edifice which is like a scroll, written all over with facts and thoughts, and in the language of reality; large as life, and coloured like the life; visible and tangible; so attractive that one must look at it, and so intelligible that one cannot mistake—and all for a shilling—how gigantic the stride!

The stride has been made. In the design of the Crystal Palace there is nothing incomplete. It meets the two great educational demands of the age—comprehensiveness and visibility. It is not enough, in these days, that a man know one thing, however perfectly; if, indeed, the unit is ever perfect. The everlasting connexion of one fact with every other fact is now brought into distinctness, and regard to it imperatively exacted. Knowledge of the classics is not now considered to constitute education; but neither



FLORENTINE VASE. (SEE PAGE 147.)

is ignorance of the classic lands and peoples permissible by public opinion. History is no substitute for science, nor science a compensation for ignorance of history. Just as, by physiological necessities, no one member is permitted to say to any other member, "I have no need of thee,"—by the universal sentiment of society the student of one subject is permitted to scorn no other subject. The sun of knowledge has risen on us "full-orbed"—and nothing can be hidden from the searching of his beams. Our only choice is, as to the order in which we will take the lessons we must learn—the methods by which we will arrive at the sum total that must be wrought out. Under these conditions, it is not surprising that a rage for oral and visual teaching has set in. The system which Pestalozzi found adequate to the development of the feeblest faculties, and the concentration of the most capricious, has come to be adapted, on a national scale, to every order of mind, and to adults no less than infancy. It almost looks as though the age were going back to the hornbooks and gaudy primers of the nursery; but it is ever true that simple methods are the surest and shortest—the regimen of childhood the restorative of diseased maturity. So we must be content to indoctrinate the millions, who are yet too ignorant or too busy to read, with the facts of history and science, by means of objects they can look upon in a summer holiday!

We have heard it remarked, however, that the teachings of the Crystal Palace are above the ignorant man and beneath the educated. The antediluvian animals, for instance—it is said—will neither please nor instruct the uninformed; they are to him unmeaning figures, worthy only of a stare; while to one who knows anything of geology, they are at the best interesting: an hour or two in the Geological Museum would be more instructive. There would be much force in the objection, if people were really divided between ignorance and knowledge—into the uneducated and the well-educated. The objection might have been fatal half-a-century ago. But happily fifty years of scientific progress and popular instruction have brought down the truth of science and brought up the intelligence of the masses to a level where they can meet. Of the ten thousand working people whom we may suppose to have visited Sydenham on Monday, we will venture to say not one was ignorant of Noah's deluge; of the remains of animals since then extinct, having been found, and pieced together; and of the intention here to represent those animals as they looked and lived in their day and generation. With only this much of geological (or historical) knowledge in his mind, who could look uninterested or uninstructed upon the tenants of Mr. B. W. Hawkins's nether world? On the other hand, very intimate must be that man's acquaintance with the revelations of a science that is yet in the making, and very vivid his imagination, who could observe for half an hour the effigies of the iguanodon, the ichthyosaurus, and their kinsfolk, without having their distinctive forms so impressed upon his retina as to have really added to his knowledge. The hypercritical and the densely ignorant we believe to be about equally rare in the crowds that daily flock to Sydenham.

Still it is a matter for argument whether the design of the Crystal Palace has been fully carried out, and whether its realization does not need a variety of auxiliaries. Several have already occurred to us—of which we will specify now but two. The first of these is, the appointment of guides, to conduct parties of visitors

through the building and grounds, making familiar explanations as they go; the other, the more liberal labelling of such objects as can be labelled. We were amused, at one visit, to find the inscription "Greek Boy Praying," attached to an unmistakable Lord Chatham; while across the way a group were puzzling themselves over the misinformation that the statue of William Dargan was that of George Hudson. The incident exhibits the necessity that labelling be both copious and careful. Why not cut up a copy of Mr. Phillips's Handbook into little slips, and paste on each of the busts a biography, or hang it near at hand? The plan might diminish the demand for that publication; but we have already expressed our confidence—further justified by the speech of Mr. Laing on Monday last—that considerations of profit and loss do not sway the decisions of the Directors.

THE CENTENARY OF THE SOCIETY OF ARTS.

THIS society, just completing its hundredth year, exhibits all the activity and freshness of youth. The objects of the society remain what they were in the time of Johnson, Goldsmith, and Benjamin Franklin—all of whom were promoters of the then novel institution; but its modes of carrying out those objects have, of course, been materially altered. It is, in fact, to this facility of adapting itself to the altered habits of the time that the society owes not only its present success, but its actual existence; for it was only a few years since that the Council summoned some of its friends to consult on the policy, or rather necessity, of bringing its operations to a close. An infusion of new ideas saved the institution, and its subsequent career is too well known to require description. The services of the society have been frequently and freely acknowledged. It holds, by common consent, a first position among the agents for the extension of practical science and art. It does not occupy the first place with respect to any special science or art; but it stands alone as a medium between the theoretical and the practical, and as furnishing the ground upon which men of all pursuits and of all classes have found it to their interest to meet and discuss questions affecting the community at large in connexion with art, science, and manufactures.

The list of subjects discussed at the meetings of this society during the past session shows how eminently practical is the tone of the society, and at the same time how broad and general is its aim. Running down that list, we find, first, a paper on the reduction of gold ores, with a description of Mr. Berdan's machine, about which so much has been said and written during the last year. There are papers on the consumption of smoke, that not only hold out a hope of positively pure air for London, but exhibit the steps actually taken in the direction of that desideratum; and on Dr. Neil Arnott's new domestic fireplace, which permits ladies to poke the fire from the top, without bringing a shower of blacks upon themselves, their dresses, or their furniture. There is a paper by Dr. Glover on a new safety lamp, to save the lives of miners too careless to exert themselves for that object. One evening was occupied by descriptions of, and discussions on, the relative qualities of meters, to tell us how much water we consume, and to cause us to be charged accordingly; another evening was given to the American stitching machines, which now stand in bold array in the central avenue of the Crystal Palace, and deservedly attract a host of admirers—but here, by way of parenthesis, we may say that we have, within a very few days, seen a new sewing machine which, we are informed, will be immediately brought into the market, that performs its work in the best possible manner, and at the same time is so exceedingly simple in its construction that it can be sold at about a third the price of the machines at present in use. Mr. Mechi occupied an evening very profitably by detailing the results of his experiments upon agricultural mind and matter. The importance of a system

of agricultural statistics; the probable sources of new material for textile and other fabrics; the resources of India; ancient and modern metal-working; nature printing; the geology of the Crystal Palace; decimal currency; industrial pathology, or the injuries and diseases incident to various occupations—the two papers on which novel and most important theme we last week reported; occupied the greater portion of other meetings at the society-rooms.

The society has done great service by its attempts to bring into communication the Literary and Mechanics' Institutions of the country; and thus eventually to eliminate a system by which their efforts may be rendered far more useful than hitherto in the cause of education and general advancement.

In addition to its ordinary labours, the society has just organized an educational exhibition, which will be opened on the 4th of next month, at St. Martin's Hall, under the patronage of Prince Albert, the president of the society. Foreign governments have been applied to in aid of this exhibition; and with such good effect that commissioners have been appointed, and contributions sent, from several European countries.*

Of course a society that can show so much vigour at the age of a hundred years, must have its centenary festival; and it is with peculiar propriety that the council of the society has determined that that jubilee shall take place in the new Crystal Palace, which may fairly be called the grandchild of the Society of Arts. We have no doubt that the meeting, which is to be presided over by the Duke of Newcastle, will be a very numerous and very agreeable reunion, and that the society will exhibit all that gay serenity which appertains to a green old age, and be a striking example to young societies of the immense importance of shaking off old habits and prejudices, on the wise old maxim that it's never too late to learn.

IS LONDON ALWAYS TO BE CANOPIED WITH SMOKE?

ONE day last summer—a fine, bright, breezy day—we had to conduct a country cousin to the top of St. Paul's; or that circumvalline gallery which is near enough to the top for lady-like nerves. Bright as was the day, and fresh as was the breeze, we could not see beyond the circumference of half a mile. The river, the city, the suburbs, all lay under a heavy blanket of cloud. We could of course trace the Thames, distinguish here and there a familiar object, and make out the basin which London occupies—a seat of magnificence and power; but for an intelligible view of the glorious panorama, we had better have gone to the Coliseum.

The other day, we looked on this same basin from another side, and from (we believe) an unequalled elevation—the leads of the Crystal Palace, at the north-east corner of the central transept. Again was the sun shining, and the wind blowing from behind us. Splendid was the country beneath us—vast the capacities for beauty, as well as utility, of the amphitheatre! The hills of Highgate were visible on the one side, and of Surrey on the other. St. Paul's could not but be seen (from the opposite side), and further west, the towers of Westminster Abbey and Palace. But where was London? Hidden in its own smoke!

We need say no more as an introduction to the following, which we read with pleasure in the *Morning Advertiser* of Wednesday last:—

"We have on several occasions felt it our duty to warn the great smoke producers of the metropolis against the certain consequences of their delay to provide for the requirements of the Legislature on the 1st of next August. It had come to our knowledge that many manufacturers in London, especially in East London, and down in the Isle of Dogs, were treating the subject with most unaccountable neglect, and were indulging the hope that no notice would be taken of the distant and outlandish regions in which they dwell, as if they were too remote to become the subjects of such notice. These persons will, perhaps, now say they have been taken by surprise, and that it will be impossible for them to be prepared with the necessary smoke-consuming apparatus by the 1st of August. We think after the long notice they have had, and the faithful warnings which have been reiterated in their ears, they will deserve no great pity

* The latest particulars respecting this exhibition will be found on page 137.

if, in consequence of their neglect, they should be obliged to put out their fires in little more than a month from this time.

"On referring to the proceedings of the House of Lords on Monday evening, it will be seen that Lord Redesdale drew attention to this important subject, and asked Lord Aberdeen whether the Noble Home Secretary intended to place the matter in the hands of the police; when he was informed, in reply, that the Commissioners of Metropolitan Police had been instructed to issue notices to the owners and occupiers of furnaces in the metropolis, to remind them that the Act would come into operation on the 1st of August, and that steps would be then taken to carry its provisions into effect. The probability is, therefore, that in a day or two, these notices will be distributed, and that we shall find them begging for a few months longer respite, that they may have time to accomplish the work for which a year has not proved sufficient.

It appears that the number of chimneys whose owners will be affected by the new Act, amounts to 8,802. It may possibly be urged that in consequence of the number being so great, it has been impossible to comply with the requirements of the Act. We believe that an excuse of this kind will be found entirely useless. If these manufacturers have not intelligence enough to know that there are several methods of doing the work, they are not fit to be entrusted with the case, any one of which would enable them to do all that the law prescribes, or if they have not sufficient respect for its authority,—to say nothing of the health and comfort of their neighbours, whom they treat with so little consideration,—they must abide by the consequences, and submit to the fines imposed, or the extinction of their fires until the evil has been remedied.

"The fact that the number of these chimneys is so great, 8,802, renders it the more necessary that the most stringent methods should be employed for the protection of the more than three millions of people whose health is suffering from the overpowering nuisance. But for great firmness on the part of Lord Aberdeen, we should think that the interests of the people would be sacrificed at the shrine of Mammon, in this instance, as well as in so many other cases. The Noble Lord, however, is not the person to allow his own favourite Act to be treated with contempt, and we have no doubt that the month of August will witness in the atmosphere of London a change which, to the mass of the inhabitants, will be most delightful, and give them an idea such as they had not before possessed, of what London would be under the influence of proper sanitary regulations.

"Lord Shaftesbury observed, on Monday evening, that furnaces could be altered in many cases at a trifling expense, so as to consume their own smoke, and that a great saving, in some cases as much as 25 per cent., could be effected as the result. It appears, also, from returns obtained by the direction of Lord Palmerston, from a considerable number of private owners, who had adopted smoke-consuming apparatus of various kinds, an average saving of 17 per cent. was effected, and that this saving in some cases amounted to 70 per cent.

"The inhabitants of London, of all classes, rich and poor, are too deeply interested in this matter not to watch very jealously over their own interests, from the day in which they are to reap the fruits so long anticipated. The washing bill of London amounts to *five millions a year*, half of which would be saved, if we could get rid of the excessive smoke in which we are enveloped. Among the middle classes the expenditure of washing consumes one-twelfth or thirteenth of their income—often about half the rental of their houses—and, taking all classes, high and low, those expenses cannot be averaged at less than one shilling per head per week.

"The sudden effect produced in a neighbourhood by the abatement of the smoke nuisance, was illustrated in a remarkable manner in the case of Preston, during the late strike. The Reverend Mr. Clay, the Chaplain of the Gaol, says he found, from his inquiries among the middle classes generally, and especially among the washerwomen, that 'the discontinuance of the smoke was at once recognised as a great benefit by every woman who had to hang out her clothes to dry.' The 'blacks' not only had no necessity for washing the clothes over again, and the linen keeping cleaner when worn, did not undergo so much scrubbing and wearing in the process of washing, and the quantity of soap exceedingly diminished.' These are but some of the benefits, and not the most important, to which the Legislature of last year has given the people of London a claim, which we are satisfied they will not, by the neglect of their own interests, allow to be wrested from them."

FLORENTINE VASE.

This is a very highly-ornamented, yet delicate and graceful vase, and shows the exquisite taste of the Italians in this department of art. Its proportions are exceedingly agreeable to the eye; its ornamentation is very rich, yet chaste, and satisfies the judgment, as being the best adaptable ornament of leaf or scroll of which its formation is susceptible. The bas-relief represented round it is particularly expressive. The sentiment conveyed is that of maternal love; but the happy innocence of life's golden age is also abundantly evident in the children so charmingly portrayed.

Several vases of this description, but varied in character and form, are exhibited in the Crystal Palace.

THE LION'S MOUTH.

EVERYONE has heard of the lion on the steps of the Doge's palace, at Venice, into whose mouth anonymous accusations might be dropped, in assurance of receiving attention. The press of England answers to the lion's mouth of Venice; with this difference, the anonymous accuser is not sure of attention. Whosoever has a reasonable complaint to make, may nevertheless screen himself from personal consequences, with a fair chance of getting public justice.

Three letters have appeared in the *Times* within the present week, all of which we wish the Crystal Palace Directors, shareholders, and visitors to see and observe, that grievance may be remedied if it exist, while foolish fault-finding gets its punishment in its exposure. Those letters are the following:—

"RAILWAY TO SYDENHAM.

"To the Editor of the Times.

"Sir,—Much as the Crystal Palace may and will tend to elevate our taste, the railway company must do more than they do now to consult our comfort.

"Yesterday I left the station at the Palace at 10 minutes past 4, and, relying on the guidebook, expected to be taken to London in a 'pleasant ten minutes' ride.' Instead of this, we were fifty minutes on our journey, thirty of which were spent within a few yards of the shed at London-bridge, where we were waiting for three other trains were before us, and had not landed their passengers!

"At last, all the passengers in our compartment, insisting on not being detained any longer, got out and walked along the narrow, unguarded parapet, where the tickets are usually collected, much to the inconvenience of a lady who was in our carriage, and to our astonishment found that the cause of our stoppage was not three trains of passengers, but three trains of empty carriages.

"The officials made the usual disturbance at not being allowed unmolested to annoy passengers, and insisted on our going back to our carriage; but at last consented, as a great favour, to put us into one of the empty carriages, by which, at a few minutes after 5 o'clock, we arrived at the station, some considerable time before we otherwise should, having occupied a very little less time in a journey from Sydenham than they have taken to come from Brighton.

"The public really are entitled to expect better arrangements from this railway company for the future.

"I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

"THE FIRST SHILLING-DAY."
"Oxford and Cambridge Club, Tuesday morning."

"To the Editor of the Times.

"Sir,—Have not the season-ticket holders a just ground of complaint in being charged, as they are, 6d. for their railway conveyance more than persons who take a ticket for the day? I went yesterday with a friend, who paid 2s. 6d. for his day ticket including admission, while I paid 2s. for mine without admission, having a season ticket.

"Yours, &c.,
"FAIR-PLAY."

"CRYSTAL PALACE REFRESHMENT.

"To the Editor of the Times.

"Sir,—I am a clerk engaged in the city, and towards the close of yesterday I paid the first of, I hope, many visits to the Crystal Palace.

"Circumstances rendered it more convenient that I should obtain some refreshment there; so, observing some cold meat, I had a 'plate,' a piece of bread, and a pint bottle of ale, for which I was charged 2s. 6d. I was sorry to see, also, both from the nature of the change given to me and the manner of its tender, that a douceur was expected by the waiter, who, indeed, received it as a matter of course, and not very grudgingly.

"I am not very well acquainted with the market prices of food, but by experience I well know that such as I had at the Palace could be obtained anywhere in the city at a less cost by exactly 1s. 6d., and I am at a loss to believe that that which costs in the city, when sold in limited quantities and in a rented house, only 1s., cannot be sold by the Directors of the Palace, in enormous unlimited quantities and on their own premises, for less than half the cost. The cost of my lunch having been exactly that of my ticket, suggested a comparison of the values I had received for my two half-crowns. For the one I had been conveyed twelve miles with great comfort by railway, in a carriage fitted up with more elegance than is usual in England, and had been admitted to a Palace acknowledged to be a very monument of beauty, the effort of some of the greatest talent of the day; for the other, the only talent which could have been exerted is supposed to exist in any under-cook-maid; and the *quid pro quo* was a sorry plate of bread and meat.

"It is not an ordinary effort made in England to buy such matter within a small price for the benefit of the million. How successfully this has been accomplished at Sydenham you have often shown, but that so little attention should be paid to the many charges which encumber those who avail themselves of these benefits is equally extraordinary. Thus, we

have here the wonders of the Crystal Palace for 1s., while the doubtful honour of taking a lunch within its precincts, apart from all considerations of its actual value, costs 1s. 6d.! Surely this must be as detrimental to success as it is absurd.

"A WELL-WISHER TO THE CRYSTAL PALACE."

"City, June 21.

We understand, from one whose appetite and taste may be relied on, that an ample, luxurious luncheon might have been obtained by 'Fair Play,' had he asked for the viands that usually succeed in order—fowl, ham, beef, salad—two shillings being the uniform charge for luncheon, as at an ordinary; the bottled ale, an extra. In the second-class refreshment-room, the beef and bread would have cost sixpence or sevenpence only. The fee to the waiter should certainly not be permitted.

THE FETE AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

A MORNING fete was given by the Directors and shareholders of the Company on Saturday to the representatives of Foreign Governments and other distinguished guests who had honoured the ceremonial of the opening with their presence. The arrangements were simple, and yet highly effective. The eastern half of the grand transept was partitioned off from the nave. A portion of the basement story immediately beyond Lady Blantyre's, and the upper garden, had been fitted up as a banquetting hall, no less than thirteen parallel tables being half enclosed in one shaped like a crescent, which was reserved for the most distinguished of the company. Here accommodation was provided for nearly 700 people, and a good selection of music, played at intervals by the band, added much to the enjoyment of the scene. Thousands of visitors not included in the invitations issued, but attracted to the building by the beauty of the weather, looked on with interest at the proceedings in the enclosed area of the transept. All day long the interior, filled, though not crowded, with happy sightseers and luxurious loungers, presented, for the first time since the opening, some idea of what the Palace is destined to become as a place of public resort.

Among the company present at the fete were observed:—

His Excellency the Sardinian Minister, Count Lesseps and Mr. Arles Dufrene, the French Imperial Commissioners, the Duchess of Sutherland, the Marchioness of Altheim, the Marquis Camden, the Marquis of Granby, the Earl and Countess Howe, the Earl of Carlisle and Lady Blantyre, the Earl and Countess of Shaftesbury and Viscountess Jocelyn, the Earl and Countess of Camperdown and Lady Elizabeth Duncan, the Earl and Countess of Lanesborough, the Earl and Countess of Essex, the Earl and Countess of Devon, the Earl and Countess of Harrowby, the Earl and Countess of Zetland and Miss Barclay, the Earl and Countess of Chichester, the Earl and Countess of Mulgrave and Miss Russell, the Earl and Countess of Hardwicke and the Ladies Yorke, the Countess Frances Waldegrave and Mr. Harcourt, M.P., the Countess of Lucan and Lady Lavina Bingham, the Earl and Countess of Perth, Viscountess Viscountess Newport and Lady Charlotte Bridgman, Viscount and Viscountess Mahon, Viscount Chelsea, Viscount Doneraile, Viscountess Barrington and the Hon. Miss Barrington, the Lord Chief Justice and the Hon. Mr. Campbell, the Bishop of Oxford, the Lord Advocate, Lord Stanley of Alderley, Lord Colville, Lord and Lady Weddell, Lord Grosvenor, Lord Stanley, Mr. James Bruce, Lady Anne Bruce, Lord and Lady Robert Grosvenor, Lord Churchill, Lord Henry Gordon Lennox, the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayors, the Lord Mayor of York, the Mayor of London, the Mayor and Speaker, Mrs. Shaw Lefevre and Miss Shaw Lefevre, Lady Graham and the Misses Graham and the Hon. Mrs. W. E. Dunt, the Solicitor-General and Lady Settle and the Hon. Mrs. Bernal Osborne and Mrs. Osborne, the Right Hon. Sir J. Pakington and Lady Pakington, Sir R. Inglis, Sir W. and Lady Cay, Sir James and Lady Mary George John and Lady Shaw, Sir Robert Price, Lady Thesiger and Miss Thesiger, Sir Fitzroy Kelly and Mrs. Paley, the Right Hon. T. Milner Gibson and Mrs. Milner Gibson, the Right Hon. W. D. Harvey, Hon. Mr. and the Right Hon. George Banks and Mrs. Banks and Miss Banks, the Right Hon. J. Napier, Hon. E. Lascelles, Hon. Mr. and Mrs. Cowper, Hon. Mr. and Mrs. George Barrington, Hon. Arthur Kimdall, Baron De Geer, Chevalier and Madame Tottie and Miss Tottie, M. and Madame Zohrab M. Delfosse, Mr. H. A. Herbert, M.P., and Mrs. Herbert, Mr. Chaplin, M.P., and Mrs. Chaplin and Miss Chaplin, Mr. Swift, M.P., and Mr. Swift, Mr. Mackinnon, M.P., and Mrs. Mackinnon.

The *déjeuner* took place at three o'clock, and was excellently supplied by Mr. Horne, who is chief of the refreshment department within the building. At five o'clock.

The Chairman rose and proposed "The Health of Her Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria;" and afterwards, "The Health of his Royal Highness Prince Albert, and the rest of the Royal Family."

Both toasts having been heartily received, the Chairman again rose and said, "The Foreign Guests who had the honour to be present in the Crystal Palace, I afforded the Directors the greatest satisfaction to see around them the distinguished representatives of so many foreign countries assembled to do homage not to that country, but to the universal idea of peace and brotherhood which they wished to shadow forth in their present institution [hear]. He saw on his right hand the representative of the most brilliant and distinguished nation, which had been long their chivalrous enemy, now, he hoped, for long ages to come, their firm and faithful ally. Nor could he close his reference to that gallant nation without a brief allusion to that merciful interposition of Providence—for he could call it by no other name—which had prevented the present emergency from making European politics had placed at the head of that great nation the remarkable man who had cemented the alliance between France and England by his straightforward and consistent conduct [renewed cheering]. On his other hand, he saw the representative of that great German nation, of whom, he was sure, English-

men would never speak but as brethren, branches of the great Teutonic family; and any contest that would divide them from that great German brotherhood would be indeed paritidal. It gave him great pleasure to see gentlemen of the noblest of nations and governments the representative of that young and chivalrous emperor whose gallant, straightforward, and honourable conduct at this momentous crisis had removed, he trusted for ever, those misunderstandings and clouds which, to their mutual detriment, had prevailed between England and Austria [great cheering]. United with the representatives of former times, he saw a distinguished nobleman on his left, the worthy representative of Italy, the country of art, to which they were indebted for so many of those marvellous productions which delighted them in the structure over their heads [cheers]. He saw there the representative of Belgium, a country the monarch of which was closely allied to our own Royal family by ties of kindred—a nation small in extent, but famous for its historical associations and the triumphs of its industrial inhabitants—a nation whose representatives he was sure, England would always greet with the utmost satisfaction at meetings of that description. He saw, also, near him the representative of a nation united with their still closer representative, Germany—the representative of the great United States of America [cheers]—of that younger brother of John Bull of whom, of all the many productions of John Bull's industry, he had the greatest reason to be proud [cheers and laughter]. He saw around him the representatives of many other distinguished European states, and he saw the presence celebrated day, because it showed that Europe associated itself with that movement—with that idea which, working in the minds of a few plain, practical Englishmen, and reacting by its magnificence, had been responded to by all the most distinguished persons assembled around him [cheers]. He begged to call upon them to show their foreign guests how the Englishmen celebrated a toast to which they wished to do especial honour. Let them drink with true enthusiasm, and three hearty English cheers, the toast of our "Foreign Guests."

The toast was received with the greatest enthusiasm. Count Lessaps responded to the toast, and spoke in French to the following effect:—In the names of the foreign Commissioners I have the honour to thank the Directors of the Crystal Palace for their cordial hospitality. I have also the honour of proposing a toast to England, and to its ally with France. It is the alliance of force and reason [cheers]. It is also the pledge of the peace of the world. Its first object has been to establish before the eyes of all the evidence of its justice. You know how it has obtained the victory. Public opinion has proclaimed it in a manner the most striking [cheers]. All have hailed the Englishmen celebrating that day and before having recourse to the force of arms. On the other side, gentlemen, the arts of peace have never ceased to illustrate both England and France [cheers]. At no epoch has the intellectual, industrial, and commercial power been manifested with more activity and grandeur. You have only to look around you and you will have the most palpable proof of the striking evidences of this fact [cheers]. In Paris, as in London, human labour exhibits all its wonders, and in the same way that, under the impulse given by the Emperor Napoleon, the Louvre approaches completion, so her Most Gracious Majesty the Sovereign of Great Britain inaugurates this palace of wonders [loud cheers].

The Earl of Carlisle, who was received with loud cheers, then rose and said:—I have been honoured by a request to propose to you a toast upon the present occasion—and, whatever may be the shortcomings of the proposer, and whatever the dignity of the audience, I yet feel sure that I may calculate upon your ready and unanimous approval [cheers]. That toast is—"Success to the Crystal Palace" [loud and unintermitted cheering]. I am highly relieved from any necessity of explaining or recommending such a toast by the notoriety of all the circumstances which have attended the origin and progress of this great undertaking; by the interest evinced in the very fact of the attendance of an assembly of such varied distinctions; and, above all, by the nature and all-embracing character of the many of the fabric itself [cheers]. It may be said, I am happy to think not as an epitaph upon the tombs of the men who have contributed to its completion, but as a tribute to their living merits—"If you want a monument, look around" [loud cheers]. Success, then, to the Crystal Palace, partly on account of that liberal breadth which has distinguished the whole conception, principle, and design for while, as we saw last week, crowned heads and their representatives, and universities and municipalities, the great, the learned, and the fair, crowded round its cradle and blessed its auspicious birth, there is not an obscure class of society, there is not a struggling son of toil, for whom it does not store up and throw open its treasures, whether for blameless recreation or wholesome instruction, and, while its contents may minister to the most refined taste and to the soundest knowledge, it seeks to provide for the common, the public, the universal enjoyment and improvement [great cheering]. Success to the Crystal Palace, since to those who, by the circumstances, their means, or their duties, are confined to the narrow circle of their own shores it extends some, at least, of the pleasures and advantages which have been heretofore exclusively confined to the wealthy or the unoccupied [hear, hear]. I, myself, who now thus venture to address you, come here fresh from the most recent impressions of all that is most lovely in nature and most

admirable in art. Yet, when I wander into the Greek, the Italian, or Byzantine Court above, I can almost feel as I am again gazing at the glittering cupolas of St. Sophia or St. Mark's, or upon those masterpieces of Phidias which still remain on their own immortal rock [cheers]. Yet, in those delicious elms the thought will too often obtrude itself which is contained in the expressive line of one of our own poets, that—

"All, save the spirit of man, is divine."

[hear, hear]; but here, under our weeping skies and amid our murkier atmosphere, the spirit of man has been enabled to recall the foliage, the blossoms, and the odours of the tropics, or to retrace the unsurpassed forms of human genius. Success, again, to the Crystal Palace, because throughout its birth, its growth, and its maturity, it has been the work of private enterprise [cheers]. And, although during its rapid progress it has been constantly cheered by a Royal smile, and sustained throughout by the sympathy of millions, yet it is through unbidden and unaided efforts that it has become all that you now see it [cheers]. I could not wish, and if I could wish, I should not be able to classify the services which have brought about this brilliant result [hear, hear]. But I feel confident that, though I decline the task of classifying any difference of merit or exertion that may exist between the distinguished persons who have taken in this great enterprise the Crystal Palace, any such difference will be most accurately and candidly measured by the agents in the work themselves. I know, too, that the prospect of its being a remunerative enterprise cannot have been the one that was foremost in their minds; yet they, as well as we, are bound to wish, if only as a test of the amount of their devotion and devotion to the cause, that they should confer upon those, that it should be abundantly remunerative to themselves [cheers]. And this I am sure you will all feel, however romantic or chivalrous their disregard may be for their own interests. Success, then, once more for all, to the Crystal Palace. It is the wish of my heart, that many a happy generation should disport themselves beneath its vaulted roofs, all along its well-stored courts and suggestive galleries, or among its gay *parterres* and stately terraces, there feel the thrill of gratitude to that Creator who has implanted in their souls the sense of beauty, and learn lessons of that lowly reverence which offers up all the treasures of this world as an incense to the God of all worlds [great cheering]. I have no doubt, I repeat myself, that you will all be true, but I have said enough to induce you on this occasion to join with me in drinking with as much warmth and goodwill as the wish requires, "Success to the Crystal Palace."

The toast was, of course, drunk with three-times-three, the ladies joining in the demonstration by waving their handkerchiefs.

The Chairman, in reply, said that he was glad to have opportunity of doing that which the noble ear had told him did not devolve on him to do; viz., to classify, in some degree, the merit which might be apportioned to the different persons who had been engaged in the enterprise. That was a task which he had no doubt, in performing, he was doing his best to classify the merit of each by assigning to his distinguished friend, Sir Joseph Paxton, the honour of designing the undertaking [loud cheers]. They might have had a hundred boards of directors to do what the Board had done, but they could not have had another Sir Joseph Paxton [great cheering]. He was the only person to whom the monument of his greatness—Europe who could have achieved that great triumph of science and art which had reared the Crystal Palace on the beautiful hill of Sydenham [loud cheers]. He would next mention two names—also therefore illustrious in the annals of English art—his friends Mr. Owen Jones and Mr. Digby Wyatt [renewed cheers]. It was to their eminent talent, and to their unwearied zeal and assiduity, that the collection of those treasures of art, which every one must admire, was mainly owing; and if the reproach which had so long been attached to England, of not understanding or appreciating the fine arts, was destined, as he hoped, speedily to pass away, he did say, that to those three names—Paxton, Jones, and Wyatt—was due the gratitude of the country [loud cheers]. To return to the Board of Directors, whose organ he was, the only merit they claimed in promoting the undertaking was, that they had faith in the genius of those men, and faith in the English people [great cheering]. He said "faith in the English people," because if the undertaking was to be successful, it was essential, that the English people should be able to value the patronage of the distinguished and noble of the land, who then honoured the company with their presence, it was to the hard-working, industrious millions of England that they must look for the complete success of their work [loud cheers]. For his own part, he would say, and for every one of his colleagues, because he knew it from intimate acquaintance, that they entertained the strongest persuasion that the mass of the English nation would support liberally whatever deserved to be supported, and would insure their success if they were worthy to achieve it [cheers]. The noble ear had truly observed that remuneration was not the object sought for in the undertaking. They had, he trusted, the highest and noblest objects. And, he trusted, he did not conceal the anxiety with which they looked forward to the enterprise being remunerative as a commercial speculation [hear, hear]. For they were convinced, that should it prove to be so, it would be the signal for embarking great masses of the overflowing capital of the country in similar enterprises of

an educational and philanthropic character, which would tend to degenerate to raise the bulk of the people to a higher level of social elevation than they had yet attained [loud cheers]. With these feelings he could only once more thank the company on the part of every one connected with the rearing of the noble structure in which they were assembled, and assure them that it was among the dearest wishes of his heart to see the toast they had just drunk—the success of the Crystal Palace, the Palace of the People of England—realized [great cheering].

With the toast of "The Palace," the formal proceedings of the *déjeuner* terminated, and the brilliant assemblage then ascended to their improvised drawing-room in the great transept, where, in listening to the music, conversing together, and partaking of the refreshments served, the rest of the evening passed pleasantly away.

Mr. Harker officiated as toastmaster on the occasion, and discharged the duties of that post with more than ordinary effectiveness of voice and manner.

JOURNAL OF THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

NOTWITHSTANDING the unfavourableness of the weather during the last week, the amount of the five shilling admission fees was over £3,000. The following is a table of each day's attendance since the opening:—

	By payment.	By tickets.	Total.
Monday	..... 3,996	..... 1,838	..... 5,834
Tuesday	..... 1,847	..... 2,929	..... 4,776
Wednesday	..... 2,641	..... 1,227	..... 3,868
Thursday	..... 1,758	..... 1,450	..... 3,208
Friday	..... 4,333	..... 7,428	..... 11,761
Saturday	..... 4,333	..... 1,231	..... 5,564
Sunday	..... 11,552	..... 1,306	..... 12,858
Tuesday	..... 11,252	..... 1,356	..... 12,608
Wednesday	..... 14,181	..... 1,769	..... 15,950

On Monday, which was the first shining day, the weather being unusually fine, and the price so low, the Palace received, it will be observed, a far larger number of paying visitors than on any previous day—realizing to the railway and Palace treasuries an amount exceeding £500. The visitors seemed rather surprised that the fountain, which had been the play. The reason of the non-performance our readers may be glad to know. The high-pressure and condensing perpendicular engine of 24-horse power has been pumping the water into the lakes night and day for weeks past, and is still constantly at work. The horizontal engines, which together combine 80-horse power, and could empty the lakes and throw the water into the large reservoirs in a few hours, were set to work on the Friday before the opening day, and gloriously did their duty, ejecting the water at each stroke with an enormous impetus into the reservoir in a fan-like shape, much to the astonishment and delight of the lookers on. After a time, however, the passages became clogged, preventing a sufficient access of air, and the water, at once anxious to escape from the impulsive influence and unable to free itself so easily as at first, oozed through the joints in various parts of the engine, convincing the engineer that if the reservoir was not very quickly filled, some few minutes of the desired event, the pent-up waters suddenly drove out, and the large column of water, some feet in diameter, before the man in charge could escape, the water had reached his knees; and in a very short time the engine and engine-house were entirely submerged, putting an effectual stop to any further attempt at feeding the fountains. The engines will be repaired, and in working order again, in a few days; and so effectual as to guard against any chance of such an accident, which we are informed is a common occurrence at the first trial, and, moreover, that the trial was highly successful as to capabilities and ultimate results.

In our stroll through the building on Monday we were surprised at the few mechanics that seemed to be present. Of the multitude of visitors scarcely any appeared to be of the laborious classes; not one of those of whom Dickens writes in "Hard Times":—"Something to be worked so much and paid so much, and there ended; something to be infallibly settled by laws of supply and demand; something that blundered against those laws, and blundered into difficulty; something that was a little richer than wheat was dear, and over-rate itself when wheat was cheap; something that increased at such a rate of per centage, and yielded such another per centage of crime, and such another per centage of pauperism; something wholesale, of which vast fortunes were made; something that occasionally rose like a sea, and did some harm and waste (chiefly to itself) and fell again."

Another feature was rather gratifying. We encountered no police either in the building or the grounds: it seemed a People's Palace wherein all might do as they pleased, requiring no other control than their own good feeling.

The cascades and falls on each side of the great fountain are rapidly progressing, and the wing of the Sydenham end of the Palace is nearly completed. The large sheet of water looks pleasant as you walk along the margin of the tidal lake; and this part of the Palace grounds, will be, when finished, a very attractive spot, wherein groves, firs, waterfalls, rustic bridges, aquatic birds, and huge monsters, will appear at intervals amid the retiring winding walks of hill and dell.

Prince Albert, the King of Portugal, and the Duke of Oporto, visited the Palace on 10 o'clock on Tuesday morning, and were attended by Mr. Fuller. Mr. Owen Jones went over his courts with the distin-

gushed visitors. Mr. Waterhouse Hawkins explained to his Royal Highness his ultimate intentions in respect to the Geological Islands, which Prince Albert considered a novel and interesting feature, and one very likely to popularize the information as yet obtained of our world's early history.

"It seems worthy of remark," says the *Times* of Monday, "that the experience of the past week establishes in a most satisfactory way how well adapted the Palace is for exercise and recreation during wet weather. The inconvenience of transit to the London-bridge terminus once overcome, the visitor is thereafter entirely sheltered from rain, and, while the surrounding landscape remains enveloped in mist and soaked with moisture, the atmosphere within the building, dried in its passage through the louvre-boards, is pure and balmy."

A magnificent display of the manufactures of Sévres, Gobelins, and Beauvais, contributed by the Emperor Napoleon, has been unpacked in the French Court, among the articles sent are three splendid vases, and two specimens of paintings on porcelain.

In passing from the Pompeian House at the back of the Sheffield Court, we observed some pleasing specimens of Mr. G. H. Stevens's decorations in mosaic; and were all the more gratified by having just left the Byzantine Court, in which are specimens that strike us as a successful revival of that art.

We understand that the demand for space is rapidly on the increase, and that many of the exhibitors have already done an amount of business which more than realizes their expectations. The agent of the French Muslin Company, who have taken space in the Mixed Fabric Court, sold 700 dresses in one day. It requires no great penetration to see that the public will eagerly pardon what gives them such facilities for the supply of their wants, and that the knowledge of the best houses in each department of industry, hitherto confined to the trade itself, is about to be advantageously extended to consumers at large. Whatever tends to bring the consumer into closer contact with the producer, thus diminishing the profits of middlemen, is a gain to the community. That is the direction in which the principle of exhibitions operates, and it is worthy of remark that the agricultural implement-makers, who have had more experience of this than any other class of manufacturers in the kingdom, are most numerously represented at Sydenham.

In the newspaper police reports, under the head of "Caution to visitors to the Crystal Palace," is given an account of a case that is no less a caution to the Directors. A young gentleman, named Coleman, knocked down the other day a piece of statuary, and "pitched into" an attendant who prevented his running through a sheet of plate glass. His excuse was that he had been drinking, and was quite willing to pay for the damage accidentally inflicted. Five pounds was claimed as the price of the image, and the magistrate discharged the offender with an "admonition."

LANGUAGE OF THE EGYPTIANS.


SECOND ARTICLE.

THE mouldering ruins which strew the site of almost every city of note in South Egypt, are covered with reliefs, for the most coloured, representing, in the case of temples, the idols to which they were dedicated in the act of receiving homage of the kings by whom those temples had been founded; in the case of palaces, with battles, sieges, and other incidents of war, accompanied by explanatory inscriptions in the hieroglyphic character. Upon finding those writings on stone, the next object was, if possible, to read them. Fragments bearing hieroglyphic inscriptions found their way into every museum of Europe. The learned of every country sought by deciphering them to throw a strong additional light upon, as well as to test and corroborate, the accounts of ancient historians. In this work great progress has been made during the last half-century. It was found that the historians in question had misled inquiry by promulgating the doctrine that these symbols hid profound and important knowledge; and that the discovery of a key to their meaning would open up to the world a store-house of concealed or forgotten truths, both physical and metaphysical; so that the modern linguists were long vainly searching for meanings never intended by the authors. The first step towards a tangible explanation was the finding a huge block of black basalt, which was discovered by the French army in digging the foundation of Fort St. Julian, near Rosetta. This monument—a cast from which is in the Crystal Palace collection—is now in the British Museum, and is familiar to visitors under the name of the Rosetta stone. It has three kinds of writing depicted on it—the upper portion is written in hieroglyphics, and much mutilated; the next is in the enchorial character, or writing of the country; the third is in Greek, and is now proved to be a translation of the hieroglyphic writing. The

Greek writing engaged the attention of Professor Porson in England, and Dr. Heyne in Germany, who fully and satisfactorily explained its meaning. It is a decree of the priests of Egypt, conferring divine honours and worship upon Ptolemy Epiphanes, the fourth successor of Lagos or Soter, the Macedonian general, to whom Egypt was assigned in the partition of the empire of Alexander the Great. This discovery led them to discredit the idea mentioned above, and to substitute the notion that the hieroglyphics were simple records of the kings and their performances, the dates, and other important matters of their reigns. While Porson and Heyne were engaged upon the Greek inscription, many continental scholars were studying the two Egyptian portions. M. Akerblad pointed out an hieroglyphic passage as corresponding with a place in the Greek, where "temples of the first, second, and third orders" are mentioned. The Baron Sylvestre de Sacy ascertained, in the second inscription, the groups of enchorial characters that represented certain Greek words, such as Alexander and Ptolemy; and Dr. Thomas Young gave a list of more than 200 groups of hieroglyphics to which he was able to attach some probable meaning. Thus it was ascertained that the inscriptions were the same in the three different languages.

This was the first stepping-stone—and a safe and substantial one—to the further explanation of the hieroglyphics. Thenceforth they were no longer a sealed book; and new keys to their meaning were yearly acquired. We have no doubt that many will look upon the specimens at the Crystal Palace with sufficient interest to be desirous of becoming acquainted with these characters; perhaps, some one, excited by the sculptured columns of Karnak, or the inscribed bosoms of the avenue of sphinxes, may even become the highly-gifted and persevering linguist destined to enlarge the boundaries of our knowledge of Egyptian lore, and to cast new and wonderful light on the remains of this remote and mysterious people.

The hieroglyphic was the original mode of Egyptian writing. The characters of which it is composed are the representations of physical objects, more or less exact according to the state of art at the period the monuments were inscribed. These characters represent ideas and sounds by different methods.

1. By direct imitation. Thus, the picture of a man denotes a man, and that of a horse, a horse. The sun, the moon, a star, would therefore, be .
2. By symbols, representing one object and conveying an idea of another. As, for example, the relation of a son, denoted by the likeness of an egg, an eye, or a seed germinating.
3. By characters grouped together, to express the consonants of the required word in the Egyptian language.

SYMBOLIC CHARACTERS.

A few examples may be given of the hieroglyphic symbolism, a method which the ancient Egyptians as readily understood as we do our alphabetical structure, though to us it may seem fraught with great difficulty. They frequently substituted a part for the whole. Thus two arms, the one with a shield, the other with a battle-axe, denote an army or combat—the most concise method of describing it.

The effect is often put for the cause, the cause for effect, and the implement for the work produced. Thus the crescent, with the horns downwards, denote a month, because the moon could not have returned to that form in less than that time. A picture of the sun, as given above, also represents the day, because without the sun there would be no day. Writing is represented by a reed or pencil combined with the other materials used at that period for this process. A sovereign is denoted by a bee, because this insect is governed by a monarchy; a sacred scribe by a jackal, because it was the scribe's duty to take care of the revenues of the temples, and to watch them like faithful dogs.

Sometimes there was no relation between the object represented and the idea intended, but one

entirely conventional. Justice was symbolized by an ostrich feather, because all the feathers in the wing of that bird are equal. The year was depicted by the symbol of a palm branch, because the Egyptians supposed that this tree produced twelve branches in the year, one every month.

The idea of the Supreme Being was conveyed by a hawk, perched upon a standard; and the Lord as ruler, by a basket woven of rushes of different colours.

The idea of a physician is frequently represented by a species of duck, the name of which particular kind was "chin," while the Egyptian word for physician was "chini;" the figure of the duck it is considered stands for the physician entirely because it corresponds with it in sound. This singular mode of suggesting words by pictures is used in the written system of the Chinese. Lord Napier was very indignant at seeing himself characterised in a diplomatic agreement by the insulting epithet of "laboriously vile" in lieu of his own name. This was done of necessity; as, having no alphabet, the Chinese took that word which approached nearest to its sound, quite unaware of the indignity of the cognomen.

PARIS INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION FOR 1855.

We understand that the Board of Trade Department of Science and Art is making arrangements to carry into effect the wishes of the Executive Government by providing for an adequate representation of British art in the Great Exhibition which will take place next spring. It is obviously most desirable that the selection of works representing the British school should be as full and complete as possible, at the same time that it should be of a character to do honour to British artists, and to raise the art of this country in the eyes of Europe. With this view the Board of Trade has requested the representatives of the various public bodies in art to give their assistance and advice in framing proper preliminary regulations. For painting, the Presidents of the Royal Academies of London, Edinburgh, and Dublin; the Presidents of the Societies of British Artists of the Old and New Watercolour Societies, and of the National Institute of Art, together with the Art Superintendent of the Department of Science and Art on the part of the Board of Trade, have been requested to form a committee to consult on the best means of carrying into effect the wishes of both countries. To make suitable regulations for sculpture, Sir Richard Westmacott, Professor of Sculpture in the Royal Academy; Mr. Calder Marshall, on the part of the Royal Scottish Academy; and Mr. John Bell, who gave suitable assistance in arranging the sculpture in the Great Exhibition in Hyde Park; have been requested to form a committee to consider the preliminary arrangements in this country. For architecture, the Board of Trade has asked from the Royal Academy for the assistance of Professor Cockerell; of Professor Donaldson, Hon. Secretary for Foreign Correspondence of the Institute of British Architects; and Mr. Scott, the Treasurer of the Architectural Museum; to advise in what way British architecture may be best represented in the French Exhibition; while for engraving and lithography, which also form a part of the tuition of Fine Arts, Mr. J. H. Robinson, Mr. Lane, and Mr. Wornum, have been requested to give their valuable assistance. It is expected that, with the advice and through the counsel of these gentlemen, representing each section of art, a most complete and satisfactory selection may be made, so as efficiently to represent British art in the World's Congress of 1855.

During the past week, the following metropolitan trades have held public meetings and passed resolutions, unanimously affirming the importance of exhibiting their productions at Paris next year, and expressive of their intentions to make the exhibition of British industry as complete as possible on that occasion:—The silk trade, the clock and watchmakers, the goldsmiths, jewellers, the silver-smiths, the upholders, decorators, and paper-stainers, the makers of philosophical instruments, and the musical instrument makers. Meetings of other trades are in course of being held daily at Marlborough-house.

THE HORTICULTURAL GARDENS.—If it were to be inferred from the comparatively small attendance on recent occasions at the Chiswick *fêtes* that public favour was on the wane, we should offer a strong appeal in favour of the society. There were other circumstances, however, which may have led to the falling-off. The society has now been incorporated forty-five years, and has done much for horticulture. The garden at Chiswick is open all the week to fellows and their orders; and from this garden seeds and cuttings of many species are supplied gratuitously to the members. The council have, moreover, formed a large collection of drawings, and have the most considerable library of horticultural works in the kingdom. We would gladly see a love of flowers and of the garden spread. "A garden," as Bacon says, "is the purest of human pleasures; the greatest refreshment to the spirits of man."

Exhibitions and Entertainments.

ENGLISH GLEE AND MADRIGAL UNION.

The second concert of this delightful and popular association took place at Willis's Rooms on Tuesday morning, and the attendance was even a more crowded one than at the first reunion. The same singers are engaged through the series, and consist of principals—Mrs. Enderssohn, Mrs. Lockey, Mr. Lockey, Mr. Hobbes, and Mr. Phillips. The assistants consist of the Misses Phillips, Bamby, and Byers, and Mr. Goldsmith, as soprano; for contralto, the Misses H. Phillips and Cummins, and Mesdames Beale and Grundy. Tenors, Messrs. M. Smith, Cummins, and Foster. Basses, Messrs. H. Bamby, Beale, Frost, Simmons, and Day.

From long practice and a full knowledge of each other they sing admirably together, and, though we have heard it regretted that the assistants were not somewhat more numerous, yet we doubt whether a richer effect would be produced, and whether the *ensemble*, the great charm in these performances, would be so well secured. We had some madrigals in the programme, and they included some of the finest in our language. The opening song, by old Willis (Grove), showed that with all our scientific advance in music the hidden soul of melody was as well, if not better, known by these ancient composers. The intricate, yet delicate and natural flowings of this delicious madrigal were as touching and fresh as if composed especially for this age. The glee of "Blow gentle gales," was charmingly given. "Where the bee sucks," is an ever-enduring and the favourite; and the old madrigal, whether truly ancient we doubt, of "Who shall win my lady fair?" merrily closed the first part. Mr. J. L. Hatton filled up the interval very agreeably by his masterly performance of Corelli's Concerto in F. The gem of the second part was this pleasing composer's "Sweetly blows the Western Wind." The so justly admired glee by Lord Mornington, "Here in cool grove and mossy cell," was deliciously rendered by all the voices; and Sir R. Bishop's glee and chorus, "Now tramp o'er moss and bill," brought one of the most pleasing concerts of the season to a rapturous close. The next concert will take place on the 11th instant, and the concluding one on Monday, July 3rd, and if they go on increasing in popularity in proportion as this one has over the first, the large rooms here will be too small for the company.

HERR HOLZEL'S CONCERT.

Herr Gustav Hölzel, who has made so favourable an impression by his appearance at the Royal Opera, Drury-lane, although he has not had any distinguished parts, gave a morning concert, in the German tongue, on Wednesday, at Willis's-rooms. He was cordially and ably assisted by his fellow-artists, and the selection was marked by the good taste that characterises Herr Hölzel's performance.

The most remarkable thing was the opening piece, which consisted of the overture to *Zauberflöte*, sung by Herr Pätz, Herr Castelli, Herr Hölzel, and Herr Fornes. This is a mode of rendering concerted music never adopted in our country, but which has been very fine and pleasing. Herr Reichart sang two pleasing songs composed by Herr Hölzel. Mlle. Vestrali gave a scena from Mozart's *Titus*, with great force and effect. Herr Fornes sang two familiar songs by Hölzel, and in his usual rich and powerful style. Herr Hölzel himself sang two of his own songs, with great grace and energy.

The instrumental performance consisted of a Rondo of Mendelssohn's, on the piano-forte, by Madame B. Jensen, very nicely rendered. A solo on the violin was given by Herr Jansa, a performer of high and deserved repute, banished from Austria for merely rendering assistance at a charitable concert for his fellow-countrymen. Madame Dreyfuss and Signor Li Calzi performed a duo on the piano-forte and the harmonium, the latter a kind of organ on a small scale. Its general effect is good, but it seems scarcely adapted for solo play, although the lady played with much skill and taste. Altogether it was an excellent concert, and the attendance was complimentary to the popular performer, for whose benefit it was instituted.

MISS ARABELLA GODDARD'S CONCERT.

The annual grand concert of this highly accomplished lady took place last Wednesday, in the Queen's Concert-room, Hanover-square, and attracted one of the most brilliant and overflowing assemblies of the season. The music selected was very appropriately, principally instructed, and was admirably calculated to display the peculiar qualities of an artist who undoubtedly ranks among the first, if not the first, pianists of the day. A thorough mastery of the instrument, combined with a fine appreciation of the author was shown in the rendering of a serenade by Mendelssohn, and especially of the "Rondo Gioioso," which is a charming embellishment of the original, and was given with such a delicious *abandon* and fluency as would have enchanted the gifted composer had he been alive to hear it. These admirable performances were followed by fantasias on three solos selected from eminent masters, which served still more forcibly to the position she occupies, and to elicit the marked and cordial appreciation of the audience. An overture ("Wood Nymphs") was admirably rendered by the orchestra, and formed a successful termination to the

first part of the concert. Mr. Sims Reeves, who was announced, was placarded as absent from "sudden indisposition," who sang Mozart's aria, "Dalla Luce pace," and Beethoven's "Aldemio," with great taste and expression, the latter accompanied by Miss Goddard on the pianoforte. Miss Dolby, who was in fine voice, gave "Addio," from Mozart, and Mendelssohn's "Song of Night;" and Mr. Miranda, Donizetti's "Una furtiva lagrima." Whether as respects the music selected, or the effective and finished manner in which it was executed, Miss Goddard's concert deserves to rank as one of the most successful of the season.

SEANCE MUSICALE ET LITTERAIRE.

Mlle. Siona Levy, a lady who has acquired some fame in France and Germany for her declamation of the French drama, made her first appearance here on Wednesday last, at Willis's Rooms, and we can justly say with the most decided success. Mlle. Levy possesses every requisite for the dramatic art—a rich, full-toned voice, expressive features, a prepossessing face, and a good figure. Her conception of the author's meaning is acute, and she reads exceedingly well. The pieces selected by her, on the present occasion, were admirably suited for the display of her powers, consisting of the dream of Athalie, Mlle. Levy's appeal to Elizabeth, from Lebrun's tragedy, and the scene between Célénie and Arsinoe, from "Le Misanthrope." The applause she received in each, and especially in the last, was well merited. Another first appearance was that of Herr Adolph Terschak, a Viennese flautist. His fingering is rapid and clear, and he produces a very pure tone.

THE PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY brought their season to a close on Monday. The concert gave satisfaction to a brilliant and crowded audience, and so long as the subscribers and the public are satisfied with the programme, we do not see who else has a right to find fault with the direction for the course they adopt of giving standard works in preference to making experiments in the way of giving trials to the effusions of living composers. The present season has been distinguished by a marked improvement in the band, which has attained a degree of excellence, superior, perhaps, to any of the most famous continental orchestras. The performance of Mendelssohn's Symphony in A (No. 2), commonly called the Italian Symphony, was a decided improvement on any previous rendering of this work, and will go far towards making this one of the most popular in the society's repertoire. In the absence of Herr Ernst, from indisposition, Herr Pater played Beethoven's Concerto in E flat for the pianoforte in masterly style. The vocal music was good, Madame Clara Novello particularly gaining fresh laurels by her splendid rendering of the scena from "Der Freyschutz." This lady is rapidly increasing in public estimation, and will very soon stand at the head of the list of "singers of all nations." The Sinfonia in C minor of Beethoven was played as the Philharmonic band alone can play it, and Spohr's richly coloured overture to Jessonda brought a most excellent concert and season to a most successful conclusion.

HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS.—On Saturday afternoon last, while the Directors of the Crystal Palace Company and friends were feasting in Sir Joseph Paxton's Tunnel, and while, apparently, all the fashion of London was congregated in the Palace and grounds, the Orchestral Union were giving a most excellent concert in the Hanover-square Rooms to a very full and distinguished audience. Mendelssohn's overture to the Isles of Fingal and Mozart's Symphony in E flat were played in very first-rate style; and Mr. W. Winterbottom performed a solo on the trombone, displaying a great command of his instrument, and proving it capable of great expression and facility of execution.

ROYAL PANOPTICON OF SCIENCE AND ART.—An inaugural lecture was delivered at this institution on Monday, by the Rev. Dr. Biber (director of the literary and scientific department) preparatory to the opening of the first series of lecture courses. The lecture was upon "literature, art, and science considered as a means of elevating the popular mind." The reverend gentleman was much applauded, notwithstanding that from defective arrangements he was but imperfectly heard.

HAMPTON-COURT AND KEW-GARDENS.—The number of persons who went to see the State apartments at Hampton-court Palace in the year 1853 was 180,753, being 7,000 more than the previous year, though only half the number for the Exhibition year. The number of week-day visitors to Kew-gardens in 1853, was 210,741, being 20,000 less than in the previous year, and 120,000 less than in the Exhibition year; but Kew-gardens were open on Sundays last summer, and were visited on those days by 120,467 persons, and the whole number of visitors last year 331,210, or rather more than even the number of the Exhibition year.

SURREY THEATRE.—Helvey's favourite opera of the "Jewess" was brought out at this theatre for the first time in an English form, on Wednesday evening, and proved a decided success. The opera is not only a work of very lively and original genius, but scenes and situations occur which afford ample opportunities for striking effects, through the medium of processions, grouping, and the like material, that, in the hands of a skilful stage director, cannot fail to give general satisfaction, when the efforts made by the management to put the opera on the stage in a telling manner were highly creditable, and were duly appreciated by a crowded house. Mlle. Levy sustained the character of the "Jewess" and sang the music of the part very effectively. Miss Romer sustained the character of "Princess Eudocia" with her accustomed ability. She was in excellent voice, and sang charmingly the recitative and air, "Too long hath sadness." She was equally effective in the duo with "Rachel," "Ah! 'tis for him who deceived me;" music allotted to her. Mr. Galer was the "Prince Leopold," and his pleasing voice well suited the airs assigned to him. Mr. Drayton played "Eleazar," the Jew, in a highly dramatic manner, and sang all songs and the other portions of the music belonging to the part so as to harmonize admirably with the whole getting up of the opera. At the close of the performance the applause was most enthusiastic, and the calls for Miss Romer and the other principal performers were so frequently repeated, that with a view of giving a general response to the enthusiasm manifested, the curtain was raised, discovering the great body of the 'dramatis personae,' who bowed their acknowledgments.

CREMONA GARDENS.—PARACHUTE NOVELTY.—On Tuesday evening a large concourse of persons assembled at Cremona, to witness the ascent of Monsieur Leteur, in his newly-constructed parachute. M. Leteur announced to repeat, at the Royal Gardens, Vauxhall, the experiment made last year in the Champs de Mars, in the presence of the Emperor of the French, and two attempts were made, but were unsuccessful, owing to the balloon not having sufficient ascending power. Mr. Wardell, the lessee, refused to allow another attempt to be made, which led to M. Leteur being engaged by Mr. Simpson, the proprietor of Cremona. At seven o'clock, the machine, with the parachute attached, in which was seated the intrepid Frenchman, left the earth amid the cheers of the large assembly. After travelling in a southerly direction, and at a distance of 600 feet—upwards of a mile—the parachute was seen to leave the car, and slowly descend to the earth. At 11 o'clock it was announced that M. Leteur had descended in safety on Blackheath, and soon afterwards he appeared on the platform to receive the applause of the company, who heartily welcomed him. As regards the utility of this newly-invented parachute, we cannot state anything in its favour; but M. Leteur declares, in positive terms, that he can steer through the air—a feat never yet accomplished.

VARIOUS ENTERTAINMENTS.—For the benefit of holiday-makers, and especially of country visitors to the Crystal Palace, we attach a list of the names, hours, and prices, of the most interesting "sights" now open: we will give detailed notices as opportunity serves. The five picture-galleries—the Royal Academy, Trafalgar-square, the British Institution, the Gallery of German Art, the Exhibition of Modern French Painters, the two Societies of Painters in Water Colours—are open all day, at the usual shilling. St. Martin's Hall, now the most attractive concert-room, commences at 8 p.m.—1s. to 5s. Kohn's Anatomical Museum (1s.), 232, Piccadilly, is open all and every day, except Wednesday and Friday, from 2 to 6 o'clock—the time set apart for ladies. Albert Smith's Mont Blanc, at the Egyptian Hall, after 720 performances, is still flourishing; it is shown daily at 3 and 8 o'clock—prices, from one to three shillings. A Diorama at Constantinople is to be seen at the same place, and on the same conditions. Woodin's Carpet-bag and Sketch-book, 69, Quadrant, begins at 8 p.m.—prices from one to four shillings. Madame Tussaud's Wax-work Exhibition, in Baker-street (one shilling) has been increased by several timely additions. The Zoological gardens, Regent's Park, are at half-price (sixpence) every Monday. The chief attractions there appear to be the vivacious, with its vivacious, and two young lion cubs born in the establishment. On Whit Monday 21,000 persons visited this favourite resort. The Globe, in Leicester-square, has received several interesting additions; among the rest a small room fitted up as a tent in the Arctic regions, and containing specimens of the selwhithing, utensils, animals, &c., of that climate. The Panopticon, with its various organs, Saracenic Halls, engine models, and beautiful fountain, 97 feet high, is in the same locality. They are both always open, at one shilling entrance.

MEDIEVAL JOKING.—The Rev. G. A. Poole, at the archaeological meeting in Leicester, said that in the great window of the north transept of St. Martin's church, in that town, occurred one of those little pieces of satire which the monastic clergy were so fond of levelling at the predicator friars. A fox was represented preaching to geese, from the text, "Testis est michi Deus quam cupiunt vos omnes visceribus meis" (a cunning adaptation of the words of St. Paul to the Philippians), and with a significant gesture, he said the last word—"God is my witness how I love you, after you all in my bowels," instead of in the bowels of Christ.

PROPOSED INCORPORATION OF LITERARY MEN.

A PUBLIC meeting of gentlemen connected with literature and journalism was held on Wednesday, at the Freemasons' Tavern, for the purpose of taking into consideration the best method of bringing literary men into a corporate association. The meeting which was convened under the sanction of several esteemed authors, was well attended. William Scholefield, Esq., M.P., presided. He remarked in the course of his opening speech, that there was an institution lately started, called the Literary Guild—for the incorporation of such, a bill was now passing through Parliament. He knew little of that institution further than seeing the bill respecting it, but whatever might be its merits, he rejoiced to see that an attempt was to be made by this meeting to carry out a similar object. It appeared to him that the great object of the meeting should be, to lay down the principle that some such institution was necessary; next, to ascertain whether there was any institution in existence which could form a basis of operation; and then, to appoint a committee, in whom the meeting had confidence, to consider whether the machinery of such institution could be rendered available for carrying out the object in view.

Mr. P. L. Simmonds moved—"That it is desirable that a renewed effort be made to concentrate authors engaged in general literature and journalism into a corporate association, to protect their rights and interests, and for other mutual advantages." It was the general opinion among literary men that some such institution was necessary, and especially to the journalist, who would find his labours greatly benefited by an opportunity of meeting his brother journalists; for there were many difficulties peculiar to this class, which could be in a great measure obviated, were a union of literary men effected. When they considered that there were in this metropolis 100 newspapers, while that in the provinces 600 or 700 more, besides the large number of colonial papers, it must be evident that the class was not numerically insignificant. In connexion with such an institution a sort of registry should be established, whereby those in quest of literary employment could make their wants known, and those in quest of literary talent could make application. Some of their most celebrated colonial papers had gone a-begging for editors for months without its ever being known in this country. Another great defect was that journalists, as a class, were not recognised. No doubt, on certain public occasions, any particular journal might be recognised, but there was no public recognition of them as a class, and what was wanted, therefore, was that literature should stand forth as an independent class, maintaining its rights and supporting its claim to recognition as one of the most important professions of the country.—(Cheers.) Mr. Heraud, in seconding the resolution, pointed out that the lawyers had agreed to erect a statue to the memory of the late Mr. Justice Talfourd; why had not the literary men agreed to pay the like homage to the memory of a man who had done as much lustre over their profession as he did over that of the law? The reason was plain. There was no union amongst them. Then they would establish such a union and brotherhood as that, such objects could be carried out, and the whole body benefited. The resolution was cordially agreed to.

Mr. F. G. Tomlins moved the second resolution, which was—"That it is the opinion of this meeting that the Athenæum Institute offers an advantageous basis for carrying out the incorporation desired, and it is therefore recommended to the consideration of literary men." Of this Institute, the distinguishing feature was that it applied the principle of life assurance in all its transactions. The subscriptions of the honorary subscribers were treated as a benefit on the life of the donors. For instance, Mr. Disraeli sent a donation of 25*l.*, which was immediately invested in an assurance on his life, he being at the time 48 years of age, and would ultimately produce to the institute an endowment of 42*l.* The application of the subscriptions of the honorary members to assuring their lives had these advantages:—it tended to create a large capital fund—it enabled the honorary subscribers to see that the undertaking was successful, before the money was expended, and it transformed such subscriptions from being an alms-giving for personal purposes into an endowment for the general benefit of literature. By this arrangement, a strong inducement was given to literary men to subscribe to this institute, as they not only had no benefit and profits arising from their own subscriptions, but participated in the capital fund, which there was no doubt would be augmented by further legacies and endowments. In this manner, the Booksellers, in the course of a very few years, had accumulated a capital of 10,000*l.* The Licensed Victuallers, who not only prevented the aged and decayed of their members from feeling want or privation, but educated and brought up the children of their order, and that, be it observed, in a great measure from literary effort, for they had a daily journal which yielded them some 7,000*l.* annually. The Governors' Institution had even established a college; while the Medical profession had a school at Epson, in which they got their children boarded and educated for 25*l.* per annum.

Mr. Thornton Hunt, in a very clear and forcible speech, seconded the resolution.

Mr. Johnstone Neale said he thought that, after they had assembled in so large numbers, for the purpose of forming some institution for their benefit, it would be idle for them to separate without coming to some conclusion, which would embrace a wider range of operation than the Athenæum Institute, which he

highly approved of, afforded them, and for that purpose he would suggest that a committee be appointed to consider the subject, and report to a future meeting. Some conversation ensued, the result of which was that the second resolution was withdrawn, and a resolution substituted in its stead, and agreed to, in effect that a committee be appointed to consider the best mode of carrying out the object contemplated by the first resolution, and to report to another meeting to be held in the same place that day month.

Some concluding remarks were appointed in terms of this resolution, after which a vote of thanks was passed to the chairman, and the meeting adjourned.

REMARKABLE PREDICTIONS.

We lately gave several instances of remarkable predictions of scientific discovery; we here present some remarkable predictions of character or personal fortune, for which we are indebted to a weekly literary contemporary:—

"Sylla said of Cæsar, when he pardoned him at the earnest entreaty of his friends: 'You wish my pardon I consent; but know that this young man, whose life you so eagerly plead for, will prove the most deadly enemy of the party which you and I have defeated. There is in Cæsar more than a Marius.' The prediction was realized."

"Thomas Aquinas was so unusually simple and reserved in conversation, that his fellow-students regarded him as a very mediocre person, and locally called him 'The dumb ox of Sicily.' This master, Albert, not knowing himself what to think, took occasion one day, before a large assemblage, to interrogate him on very profound questions; to which the disciple replied with so penetrating a sagacity, that Albert turned towards the youths who surrounded his chair, and said: 'You call brother Thomas a dunce, but be assured that one day the noise of his doctrines will be heard all over the world.'"

"Bramus wrote a composition at twelve years old, which was read by a learned friend of Hegins; and he said: 'I consent to its merit, that he called the youth to him, and said, scanning him keenly, 'My boy, you will one day be a great man.'"

"Sully's father predicted of him, when only twelve years old, that he would one day be great by reason of his courage and his virtues. Had not the prophecy come true, we had never heard of it. But Sully was early set on the way of promotion, and once in the road, the rest is comparatively easy."

"Cardinal Morton, Archbishop of Canterbury, early predicted the future greatness of Sir Thomas More. Pointing to the boy, one day, he said to those about him, 'That youth will one day be the ornament of England.'"

"Cardinal Wolsey, though a butcher's son, had an early intuition of his future great eminence. He used to say that if he could but once set foot at court he would soon introduce himself there. And scarcely had he obtained admission at court, the possessor of an humble benefice, than he did not hesitate to say that 'henceforth there was no favour to which he dared not aspire.'"

"At six years of age, afterwards Cardinal de Retz, composed certain reminiscences of early studies, reading which Richelieu exclaimed, 'Here's a dangerous fellow.'"

"Marshal Turenne, in his early youth, prophetically foretold the distinction in arms to which he would rise. But, doubtless, there are few youths who enter the army full of honour and courage, who do not predict for themselves the career of a hero and a conqueror."

"Milton, in his early writings, foreshadowed his great poem, then not matured in his mind. He declared his intention, many years before he commenced his task, of writing some great poem for posterity, 'which the world could not willingly let die.'"

"Bossuet, when a youth, was presented to a number of prelates by one of the bishops of his church, who said of him when he had left, 'That young man who has just gone forth will be one of the greatest luminaries of the church.'"

"Mazarin early predicted the brilliant career of Louis XIV. He said of him, 'He has in him stuff for four kings; and at another time, 'He may take the little later than others, but he will go much further.'"

"One day a mason, named Barbe, said to Madame de Maintenon, who was at that time the wife of Seignior, 'After much trouble a great king will love you; you will reign; but although at the summit of favour, it will be of no benefit to you.' He added some emotion. Her husband, who had a fine air of a man confident of the truth of what he said, 'You will be glad to kiss the hem of her garment then, instead of amusing yourself at her expense.'"

"On the other hand, Louis XIV. one day observed to Rochefort and the Duc de Crequi, 'Astrology is altogether false. I have had the horoscope drawn in Italy; and they told me that after having lived a long life, I would fall in love with an old woman, and love her to the end of my days. Is there the least likelihood of that? And so saying, he burst into laughing. But this did not, nevertheless, hinder him from marrying Madame de Maintenon, when she was very old. So that both the predictions of the mason and of the Italian conjuror came true at last."

"When Voltaire was engaged in the study of classical learning, the father Lejay was once very much irritated by the insolence of his repartees, and

taking him by the collar, shook him roughly, saying, 'Wretched youth! you will some day be the standard of despotism in France.' Later, Voltaire's confession, did not less correctly define the future career of his young penitent when he said of him, 'This boy is devoted by a thirst for celebrity.'"

"Sterne had told an anecdote of what happened to him once at Halifax. The schoolmaster had got the ceiling newly whitewashed, and the mischievous boy mounting the steps almost before the job was completed, daubed with a brush on the ceiling the words, in capital letters, 'Laud Sterne!' that he would have the name effaced, seeing that Sterne was a boy of genius, and certain to make a reputation in the world."

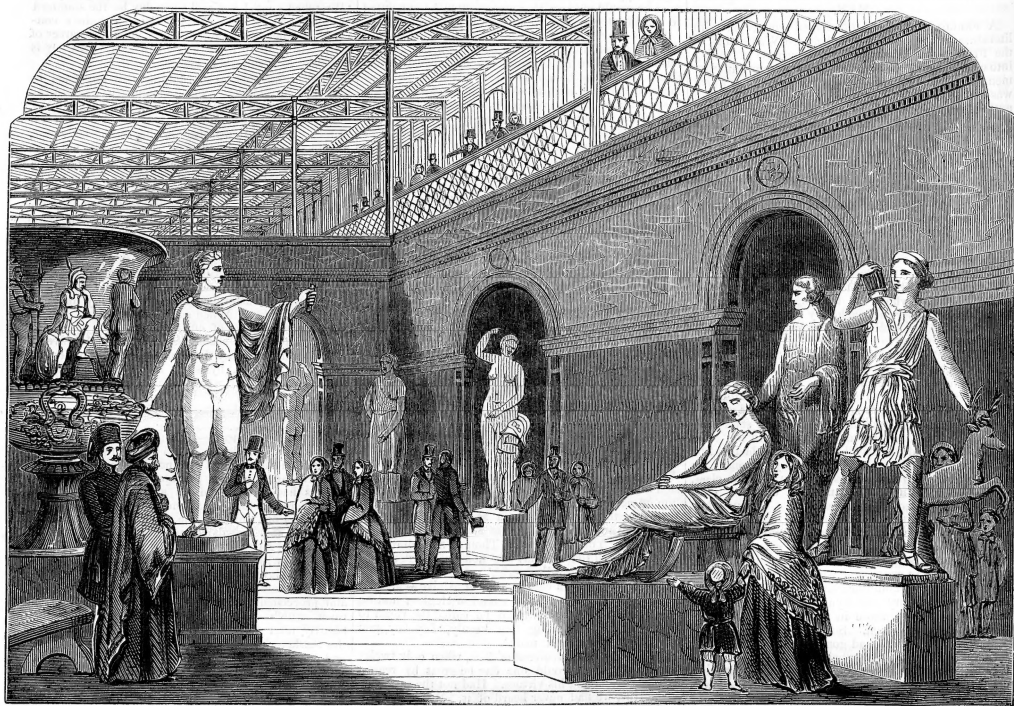
"Let us conclude by adopting the thought of Goethe:—Our desires are the presentiments of the faculties which lie within us—the precursors of those things which we are capable of performing. That which we would be, and that which we desire, present themselves to our imagination, about us and in the future; we prove our aspirations after an object which we already secretly possess. It is thus that an intense anticipation transforms a real possibility into an imaginary reality. When such a tendency is decided in us, at each stage of our development a portion of our primitive desire accomplishes itself, under favourable circumstances, by direct means; and, in unfavourable circumstances, by some more circuitous route, from which, however, we never fail to reach the straight road again."

SHREWSBURY SHOW.—This time-honoured pageant came off on Monday. An unusually heavy excursion from the midland and northern counties began to arrive, and by noon, perhaps not less than 30,000 persons had been set down at the railway station, while there was an almost endless train of vehicles of all descriptions entering the town by every available approach, and crowds of pedestrians poured in on every side. About 11 o'clock the several trades began to muster, with their bands of music, on the streets; and at midday the grand procession moved from the Market-square, headed by the Shropshire militia band, and proceeded through the principal streets of the town, which were densely lined with spectators. Shortly after two o'clock the procession returned to the Market-square, where it was joined by the mayor and corporation, and the grand parade started for Kingsland. Henry I., who granted the first charter to Shrewsbury, was represented; Edward VI. (the founder of Shrewsbury school); an Indian chief, followed by several of the trades; Vulcan (in iron armour), followed by the smiths; Queen Elizabeth, followed by the hairdressers; Cæsar, followed by the shoemakers; Rabens, followed by the painters; a steam-engine, followed by the engineers; Jenny Jones and Edward Morgan, Cupid and the stag, followed by the tailors and skimmers; a knight of the cleavers, followed by the butchers; and there were representations of the seasons, and a group characteristic of the battle of Shrewsbury, including Hotspur in chain armour. On arriving at Kingsland, the several bands filed off to their respective abourers. The mayor and corporation and the show committee retired to the butchers' arbour, where a grand luncheon was provided. After the customary round of toasts was disposed of, the corporation visited the different abourers and the principal exhibitions on the ground; the same was gay and amusing. Certain it is, that perhaps on no previous occasion has the attendance been greater or the amusements more eagerly and generally participated in. It was not till evening that the procession returned to the town, and the merry-makers for a time suspended their gay proceedings, to renew the festivities next day.

METROPOLITAN COMMISSION OF SEWERS.—A few months ago this body announced its intention to resign its responsibilities into the hands of the Government at the earliest opportunity, and in the meantime to occupy itself with works admitting of no delay. The other day, however, a work was held at the office in Greek-street, when works were ordered to the amount of £67,963. The greater part of the money is to be expended in the Surrey and Kent and Greenwich districts.

NARROW STAIRCASES.—It may be a very well for some stout people passing up or down one at a time, for then they gain a little leverage on one hand, or the other, and another on the way, but the matter is very different if you happen to be an unfortunate wight condemned to escort some lady from the drawing to the dining-room. Many must have performed, and afterwards wondered how they managed to go through, the curious gymnastic exercise required on such occasions. You have either to go through an elongating, or a compound compressing process, which brings painfully to mind those French toys—the elastic fuses; and it is quite impossible for two people of most moderate proportions to attempt the passage in the same parallel. You have a choice of two evils. Which of them is the least I have never yet been able to decide. You may, as you ought, go first (by one step) as a pioneer. Your companion acts as a drag, and as she is always one step higher, you have to adopt the elongating process in an attempt to compromise the balance of power, that is, equality of height. On the other hand, should accident place you last, the *diminutio* must be resorted to. After all, your most pious-worshipful efforts are fruitless and annoying. Be thankful if you escape the *travertine* of a drag, and as the miserable passage-ways never have been well tolerated in the days of our fair ancestors who wore hoops.

—Builder.



ROMAN COURT.

THIS Court has a great resemblance to the style of the interiors of the palaces of the nobility, at the period of which it is a restoration. Ancient Roman mansions were very numerous, of regal magnitude, and commanding appearance. They contained long ranges of spacious courts; their pillars and walls were constructed of costly marble, but the flooring paved with unsightly brick. The apartments were very scanty of furniture; here and there might be seen a marble table, a few paintings, and heavy gilt chairs, but no signs of taste, neatness, or comfort. The exterior of the ancient Roman villa was classical; and the porticos and terraces usually adorned with marble statues, pillars, vases, and fountains. The terrace in front of the Palace is similar to those leading to the palaces and mansions at Rome.

MAN versus MONKEY.

In our perambulations through the Natural History Department of the Crystal Palace, we are continually alighting upon an ape, a monkey, or a baboon—sometimes a cacodæmon of a monkey—at another time a good-looking mannikin, with some ripe fruit in what is certainly rather a hand than a paw, and quietly watching the gambols of others of his fraternity. This set us thinking of the theory that man was once a monkey; and it rather affronted our dignity to think that one of our forefathers—never mind how long since—sat perched upon a tree, munching ambrosial seed, and imbibing a nectar that in due time was to ripen him into a man. The first thing that occurred to us was, that we have read of travellers who had seen—or who declared they had seen—a race of men having tails; and that the island of Madagascar, and the interior of Southern Africa, were the dwelling-places of these human possessors of caudal extremities. Seeing “South Africa” inscribed over a group of trees, plants, animals, and human figures, we looked for the tails of the latter, but found none; and concluded, therefore, that Dr. Latham had no faith in such appendages—which confirmed us in the suspicion that the travellers were mistaken. Then we remembered the tradition of the aborigines of Van Diemen’s Land, that man originally had no knee-joints, but a tail; and

that in that state he was so useless and unhappy, that a spirit, taking compassion on him, descended from heaven expressly to cut off the useless pendant, and to rub grease upon the spot where, by gradual suppleness and constant use, knee-joints were ultimately formed. This tradition we distrusted, because we never knew of a mistake in any of Nature’s works. To pass from the savage to the sage—the author of the “Vestiges of Creation” considers that we are descended from a species of monkey; but geologists, with all their researches, have never come across the remains of such a progenitor; and we think it will be quite time enough to believe it when they do. Other philosophers make us out to have been fish before we were flesh; but they, too, lack an essential link in the chain of descent.

To pass from speculations to facts, we compared the structure of the chimpanzee, the highest type of the monkey tribe, and of the negro, a low type of humanity. The chimpanzee has the brain-case behind the face; the negro principally above it, and the brain much larger than in the monkey—especially that part of it which the phrenologists apportion to the superior faculties. The monkey has a bone in the face, which man has not, and also an enormous mass of bone attached to the jaws. Cuvier and Professor Owen point out that the monkey’s teeth are different from ours—ours being regular, but the monkey’s, some longer than others; and spaces left between, so that when he masticates, the long teeth have room to clench the food. The vertebrae does not curve like ours. The arms are strong and long, and the legs short, so that to walk on all fours is more the rule with him than the exception. The hinder feet are unlike a man’s; they are, more properly speaking, hands—a grasping organ, rather than a balancing one. The monkey’s chest is narrower and smaller than man’s, and is thickly clothed with hair. His extreme age is thirty years—not a third that of man’s. And, lastly, the monkey has not the power of speech, because, as Sir C. Bell says, he has no organs adaptable to that end. From all these differences in anatomy, it does appear that monkeys never were men, or men monkeys, excepting in the imaginations of philosophers—and on a theory about as reasonable as that because there are sheepish men and hoggish men, men must formerly have been pigs and sheep.

LOCAL MUSEUM OF ART.

The following minute, on aiding the formation of Local Museums of Art, has been recently issued by the Board of Trade:—

“The Lords of the Committee of Council for Trade are desirous that local schools of art should derive all possible advantages from the Central Museum of Ornamental Art, and are prepared to afford assistance in enabling them to do so. Their lordships are of opinion that if articles belonging to the Central Museum were circulated among the schools of art and publicly exhibited, the instruction given in the schools would be aided; the formation of local museums encouraged; the funds of the local schools assisted; and the public knowledge of taste generally improved.

“With these views, my lords have directed that collections should be made of articles from each of the divisions of the Central Museum—namely, glass, lace, metals, ivory carvings; pottery, paper-hangings, and woven fabrics; and, that they should be sent in rotation to local schools making due application and expressing their willingness to conform to the following conditions:

“1. That adequate provision be made by the committees of the local schools for exhibiting—during a limited period—the collections to the students and the public, both in the daytime and the evening.

“2. That the committee of the school endeavour to add to the exhibition by obtaining loans of specimens from the collections of private individuals in the neighbourhood.

“3. That the students of the schools be admitted free; but, that all other persons, not students, pay a moderate fee for admission, which should be higher in the morning than the evening. To enable artisans and others employed in the daytime to share in the benefits to be derived from the collection, the fee on three evenings in the week should not exceed one penny per person.

“4. That any funds so raised should be applied—1st, to the payment of the transport of the collection to the school and other expenses of the exhibition;—and, 2nd, that the balance be appropriated in the following proportions, namely,—one quarter to the masters’ fee fund; one half to the purchase of examples for a permanent museum, &c.; and one quarter to the general fund of the school. Committees of schools desiring to receive the collections are requested to make application in the accompanying form.

(Signed) HENRY COLE,
LYON PLAYFAIR.

Marlborough House, 21st June, 1854.

BRONZE DOOR IN THE LOGGIA CAMPANILE OF ST. MARK'S, VENICE.

The gates (or panels), a portion of which this engraving represents, are taken from the Loggia, beneath the Campanile of St. Mark's, Venice; and will be found in the interior of the Italian Court of the Crystal Palace.

The Loggia of St. Mark's was designed by Jacopo Sansovino, probably about the year 1540. Another celebrated work of his is the bronze door from the choir of St. Mark's; which is said to have occupied him thirty years.

The gate here represented is in open work. In the centre are two allegorical female figures; one bare-headed, with a book in her hand, and a swan or goose at her feet; the other, wearing a plumed helmet, bearing in her right hand a sceptre and in her left a cap on a staff, with a cat at her feet. The border is an open ornamental work, representing nude children at play among pieces of armour and weapons. Above, are two other figures,—one of whom, as seen in the engraving, is War, resting on a shield and helmeted, but bearing an olive branch, and a child is stooping by the shield; the other, Peace, with the caduceus of Mercury. At the angles are the winged lions of St. Mark, each with an open book, inscribed, "Pax tibi Marci, evangelista meus."

The life of Sansovino was a remarkable one. His original name was Tatti, and he was born of a good family, at Florence, in the year 1477. At an early age he studied under that excellent sculptor, Andrea Contucci, of Monte Sansovino. The relation of the master and pupil soon became rather that of father and son, "so that," writes



Vasari, "he was no longer called Tatti, but Sansovino; and as he was then named, so is he now and ever will be called." Having distinguished himself by his ability at Florence, he was taken to Rome, by Giuliano da San Gallo (brother of the celebrated Antonio da San Gallo), where he attracted the notice of Bramante, and became fully employed, both in sculpture and architecture, gaining, among other honours, that of the successful competitor for the design of the Church of San Giovanni de' Fiorentini, at Rome, against Raffaele, Sangallo, and Peruzzi. When the Imperial city was taken by the French, in 1527, Jacopo sought refuge in Venice, intending to visit France, where Francis I. had offered him employment; but the Doge, Andre Gritti, persuaded him to remain in Venice, and he was made chief architect of the illustrious Republic, retaining that office to the day of his death, A.D. 1570. Venice owes some of her noblest buildings to him, the chief of which are the unrivalled Libreria Vecchia, the Zecca or Mint, the Cornaro and Moro palaces, the Loggia round the Campanile of St. Mark, and San Giorgio dei Greci; his reputation in sculpture being sustained by such works as the colossal Mars and Neptune, of the Giant's Staircase, the monument of Francesco Veniero, the bronze door of St. Mark's choir, St. John the Baptist in the church of the Frari, &c. His productions in sculpture and architecture are of the highest merit and of great originality. He formed a large school of followers, among whom may be mentioned Il Tribolo, Danese Cattaneo, Alessandro Vittoria, and Bartolomeo Ammanati.

THE CRYSTAL PALACE HANDBOOKS.

(SECOND NOTICE.)

IN the ethnological portion of the joint production of Dr. Latham and Professor Forbes, it is not difficult to trace the best characteristics of the former author; that resolve to produce a complete treatise, no matter how scanty may be his space, which distinguishes the excellent little essays he is in the course of contributing to "Orr's Circle of the Sciences"—his usual spice of egotism, never offensive, but, though occasionally uncalculated for (as in speaking of statements "I will neither verify nor deny," statements "I will not disturb"), is generally grateful to us as being the dictum of so high an authority—his clear exposition and arrangement, marshalling all his paragraphs under letters, numerals, or italics—and exemplifying all he lays down with sometimes an over-anxiety to be simple. He thus travels to the meaning of the simplest of Greek words, *logos* :—

"The latter Greek word, of which *ethnology* is compounded, scarcely requires explanation, because it already forms part of a numerous class of compounds with which the learned reader is well acquainted. The general reader, too, is perhaps equally familiar with them. We have them in such words as *Geo-logy*, *Astro-logy*, *Physio-logy*, and a long list besides. The Greek form of these would be *Geo-logia*, *Astro-logia*, &c. The basis of the term is the substantive *logos*, meaning a word."

To pass over his unusual orthography of recognised words—as "Jenjiz Khan," whom he appears to introduce for the sake of so spelling—and the very large degree of extract, which is rarely so pleasant as his own familiar pen, we may regard this book as perhaps the most successful of the Library, when judged according to the promises of the Company. It forms a geographical treatise which may be read without reference to the specimens, and which mentions

these not in the spirit of a catalogue, but as illustrations to the author's point, and within the reader's experience. In all his popular essays there is much that is so rare or difficult of access as to be novel and striking, and he never disdains as trivial such curious information as may fix the attention and form the landmarks of memory.

"In more than one part of the Western coast of Africa the woman serves as a soldier, or even as a captain. In Akkum, on the Gold Coast, the notice of a female *colonel*, when first made, excited as much incredulity as surprise. The fact, nevertheless, has been confirmed by respectable testimony—by Mr. Duncan and Captain Forbes, more especially, inasmuch as in the kingdom of Dahomey there is a whole regiment consisting exclusively of females—a large proportion being the ex-wives of the king. The following song, given on the authority of the last-named author, shows the temper and the spirit of the unsexed Amazons :—

"When Yoribah said she could conquer Dahomey;
When we meet we'll change their night into day;

Let the rain fall;
The season past, the river dries.
Yoribah and Dahomey!

Can two rams drink from one calabash?
The Yoribahs must have been drunk to say
Dahomey feared them,
They could conquer Dahomey.

There's a difference between Gezo and a poor man;
There's a difference between Gezo and a rich man.

If a rich man owned all,
Gezo would still be king.
All guns are not alike;
Some are long, some short, some thick, some thin.

The Yoribahs must be a drunken nation,
And thus we will dance before them.

Gezo is king of kings!
While Gezo lives we have nothing to fear.
Under him we are lions, not men.

Power emanates from the king.
Let all eyes behold the king!

There are not two but one!
One only, Gezo!
All nations have their customs,
But none so brilliant or enlightened
As those of Dahomey.

People from far countries are here;
Behold all nations white and black,
Send their ambassadors.

AMAZONS' CHORUS.

With these guns in our hands,
And powder in our cartouch-boxes,
What has the king to fear?
When we go to war, let the king dance,
While we bring him prisoners and heads.

GENERAL CHORUS.

Let the king grant war speedily!
Do not let our energies be damped.
Fire cannot pass through water.
The king feels us;
When we go to war,
Remember this!
We are clothed and fed by Gezo;
In consequence, our hearts are glad."

He surveys the ethnological divisions under which are ranged the tribes whose peculiarity of physical construction or moral habit has introduced them to his notice and the Company's Museum, the genius and grouping of their languages, and whatever is interesting in their mutual intercourse; while Professor Forbes, at the end of the Handbook, enumerates the vegetable and animal existences around them. The indications from one part to the other are sometimes omitted, but the book is too small to give the reader much extra trouble on this account. We extract the following from his account of the Kafirs :—

"It would be strange indeed if the Kafir life and Kafir physiognomy had no peculiarities. However little in the way of physical influence we may attribute to the geography of a country, no man ignores them altogether. Now Kafirland has very nearly a latitude of its own; inhabited lands similarly related to the southern tropic being found in South America and Australia only. And it has a soil still more exclusively South African. We connect the idea of the desert with that of sand; whilst *steppe* is a term which is limited to the vast tracts of central Asia. Now the Kafir, and still more the Hot-tent area, dry like the desert, and elevated like the steppe, is called a *barro*. Its soil is often a hard, cracked, and parched clay, rather than a waste of sand, and it constitutes an argillaceous table-land.
"Their polity and manners, too, are peculiar. The head man of the village settles disputes, his tribunal

being in the open air. From him an appeal lies to a chief of higher power; and from him to some superior, higher still. In this way there is a long chain of feudal or semi-feudal dependency.

"The wife is the slave to the husband; and he buys her in order that she should be so. The purchase implies a seller. This is always a member of another tribe. Hence the wish of a Kafir is to see his wife the mother of many children, girls being more valuable than boys."

"Why a man should not sell his offspring to the members of his own tribe is uncertain. It is clear, however, that the practice of doing so makes marriage between even distant relations next to impossible. To guard against the chances of this, a rigid and suspicious system of restraint has been developed in cases of consanguinity; and relations must do all they can to avoid meeting. To sit in the same room, to meet on the same road, is undesirable. To converse is but just allowable, and then all who choose must hear what is said. So thorough, however, has been the isolation in many cases, that persons of different sexes have lived as near neighbours for many years without having conversed with each other; and such communication as there has been has been through the medium of a third person. No gift will induce a Kafir female to violate this law."

Dr. Latham's great value as a scientific leader of the people is, that he has not entered on his studies like an advocate with an express theory to support. He is never doctrinal or peremptory, and his deductions seldom fanciful or forced. He never writes in wrath that he can find no answer to an objection but a sneer; he never feels it necessary to combat discovery in self-defence; and on reading his works the sensation next uppermost to our clear perception of his meaning is an implicit confidence in his honesty of statement and purpose, and that he can harbour no interest contrary to that of science and education.

There is something of contrast to this in Phillips's Portrait Gallery, in which the characters awarded to the subjects of the busts are generally very decided, and grudgingly shaded off. Their position as statesmen, artists, or authors, is often picturesquely and eloquently, but almost too exclusively discussed—to the exclusion, we mean, of those events of private life which are not so much mere matter of curiosity as valuable aids towards testing influences and motives. The introduction is a clever history of the art of portraiture, from the distinctive features to be traced in some of the mightier Egyptian worthies, and the Chinese collection of Pere Amist, to the figures and faces of Michael Angelo and Titian. The treatment of his heroes is as varied as their busts. We will select a sketch of the poet Burns—

"410. ROBERT BURNS. Poet."

"[Born in Ayrshire, 1759. Died at Dumfries, 1796. Aged 37.]

The ploughman-poet of Scotland—in whom the labour of the limbs appeared to invigorate the intelligence, and the bleak air of poverty to cherish the blossoms of genius. Shakspeare rose from the bosom of the people to delineate kings and queens. Burns, from some steps lower, dwelt, even in his verse, to the last, amongst his own order. That is his dignity and his glory. The life of the Scottish peasant as it remains represented by his pencil, and in his person, seizes the imagination and the sympathies of the educated world. He has drawn the heart of the high towards the low. He has raised the low to their just esteem in the opinion of the high. But besides this moral aspect, he has gained, as a poet, immeasurably, by rooting his foot to the fields which he furrowed. The confidence in his own thoughts, the self-reliance, and his endowments and aspirations, sheds a continual illumination of wonder upon his writings. But more! His happiest subjects and strains draw life and meaning from the soil of which they are the self-sown flowers. Not merely that solitary agricultural Idyl, with its homely pathetic, and homely picturesque—"The Cottar's Saturday Night"—but the fanciful tenderness of his lament over the "Daisy and the Mousse"—but the wild and reckless daring of imagination in that cordial encounter with the dread foe Death—that blending of the humorous, the superlatively grotesque, and the terrific, in "Tam O'Shanter"—of the rustic, the gracious, the solemn, even the sublime, in the "Vision of Colley"—these most characteristic feats of poetical skill and genius—which stand apart, defying competition, and claiming rank for the name of Burns amongst the illustrious on Parnassus—all are made possible by originating in, and by reflecting, his native condition.

His songs are tender, passionate, musical; chanting his own or imaginary rustic lues. The torrent of his spirit, that, pouring along the channels of thought and song, became an elate and exalting enthusiasm, hurried him on the paths of common life into excesses; dissipating the humble home and the proud householder. He first published his poems—now in every peasant's cottage throughout Scotland—in his 27th year, and his fame was instantaneous. Later in life, the favours and patronage of the Scottish nobility and gentry were able to confer upon him a place in the Excise, of no less than £70 a year; in the discharge of which distinguished public function, and in the enjoyment of which splendid public remuneration—then his only certain support—the one-laboured modern singer of the time-honoured Scottish tongue, sank, from his darkening noon, into the grave.

"[This Bust is by David Dunbar, sen.]"

"The Greek Court," by G. Scharf, jun., is very pains-taking, and well-achieved; the criticism has an independence, in taste, and an absence of conventionality very refreshing in an exponent

of classical sculpture. The Handbook's merit as a treatise consists chiefly in its characterising the progress of the Greek chisel from the infancy of the national art through the ages of Peisistratus, Pericles, and the Macedonian ascendancy; and, as a guide, in the detailed description of the meaning, period, and modern restorations, of the several objects.

The introduction to Mr. Owen Jones's contribution, after tracing the various styles of architecture through their history and causes—through their primary, secondary, and tertiary periods—through "their hour of faith, their day of joy and intoxication, their time of lingering disease and death"—merges into a sigh over Protestant art, and modern death of architectural type and expression. He cries that Mammon hath gotten the victory—that he is the god whose high priests are Industry and Commerce—that the isolation of builder and decorator, architect, upholsterer, weaver, and potter, each running his independent course—the anomalies of nave and aisles without processions; of cloisters without monks, and embattled walls without an enemy; of Greek porcoses leading to Louis Quinz furniture and cinquecento decoration—are but the natural consequence of our indistinctive but untutored craving—of abandoning hurriedly Art for her sterner sisters, Science, Industry, and Commerce, before the age was prepared to stamp on its productions a character of its own.

"We were to inquire of the artists who design many of those melancholy productions which we see around us every day, what has directed their choice of this or that particular form, they would undoubtedly tell us that it was the only design that *manufacturers would purchase*, and that they had only done as they were bid. Were we to inquire of the manufacturers why they had engaged such a vast amount of capital, skill, and labour in the production of such tasteless articles, they would undoubtedly tell us that they were the *only articles they could sell*, and that it would be useless for them to attempt the production of articles in better taste, for they would infallibly remain unsold upon their hands. Were we to inquire again of the public how it came to pass that they purchased such vile productions and admitted them to their homes, to enfeeble their own tastes, and effectually destroy that of their children, they would infallibly reply that *they had looked everywhere for better things, but could not find them*.

"So the vicious circle is complete: one and all shift the blame on each other, and one and all equally deserve it. The fault, however, lies more heavily on the public, who, ignorant themselves, are unable to discover the ignorance of others: till this is otherwise, it is impossible that any improvement can take place. The ignorance and caprice of clients are amongst the many causes of the degraded state of architecture in our time; and it is equally the case with the other decorative arts."

"Let us trust that now the attention of the public is awakened, the necessity for education will be felt by all. It is difficult to conceive minds indifferent to the cultivation of faculties implanted in them for the appreciation of the many beauties of form and colour which pervade nature, and of which architecture and the decorative arts should be the humble ministers; these faculties should be fostered and developed in every child from the earliest period. It is as necessary for the happiness of man to develop the innate poetry of his nature by the cultivation of the eye, as to develop his intellect by acquiring the power of reading and writing."

Speaking of the subject of his Handbook, he shows how the structures and arabesque of the Moor in Spain was the expression of his various wants, and the offspring of his former modes of existence; how he moulded the architecture he there found from the memories of his tent-life—paring away the pillar into the staff that supported his canvass—bending the arch into the emblem of his faith—changing the Greek acanthus into his native pomegranate—and throwing upon his courts and corridors that the breezes might fan the dark cheek, and the light play on the flashing scimitar.

"The religion of Mohammed, which spread over the East with such meteoric-like rapidity, produced with equal rapidity an art in unison with its poetic and magnetic doctrines—an art the offspring of the Koran, as Gothic art of the Bible.

"The mosques of Cairo and India, the palaces of Spain, spread everywhere the calm voluptuous traditions of the Koran's doctrines. Forbidden by their creed to represent the human form, the Mohammedans were led to adorn their temples in a style peculiar to themselves. Inscriptions from the Koran, expressing faith while adding beauty, were interwoven with poetic and magnetic flowers, not drawn directly from nature, but translated through the loom; for it would seem that the Arabs, in changing their wandering for a settled life—renouncing the tent by a form more solid—transferred the luxurious shawls and hangings of their former dwelling to the new, changing the tent-pole for a marble column, and the silken tissue for gilded plaster."

On the walls of the Hall of the Two Sisters in the Alhambra are the following verses, forming part of a poem in honour of its builder, the Imam Ibn Nasr.

"Look attentively at my elegance, thou wilt reap the benefit of a commentary on decoration."

For, by Allah! the elegant buildings by which I am surrounded surpass all other buildings in the proportions omen attending their foundation.

Apartments are there as folding so many wonders, that the eyes of the spectator remain for ever fixed upon them; provided he be gifted with a mind to estimate them.

How many delightful prospects—how many objects in the contemplation of which a highly gifted mind finds the gratification of its utmost wishes.

Markets there are where there is no purchase with money are paid in beauty, and where the judge of elegance is perpetually sitting to pronounce sentence. This is a palace of transparent crystal; those who look at it imagine it to be a boundless ocean.

Indeed, we never saw a palace more lofty than this in its interior, or more brilliantly decorated in its interior, or having more extensive apartments. And yet I am not alone to be wondered at, for I over-look in astonishment a garden, the like of which no human eyes ever saw."

It would be difficult to find a more appropriate introduction to a visit to the Crystal Palace at Sydenham, than these eloquent words of an Arabian poet of the thirteenth century in honour of a building which appears to have been the glory of his age, as the Crystal Palace may become of our own.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We can best answer certain suggestions and inquiries by the following list of the engravings in former numbers—

No. 1 contains: Sydenham Church; the Crystal Palace in Progress; Westrup's Flour-mill; Entrance to the Chagres—No. 2. The Palace in November; Crystal Palace Railway; Bornean Girl; the Dodo—No. 3. The Paxton Tunnel; the Royal Visit; Bust of Pericles; Norman Door and Decorated Window—No. 4. Bust of Phidias; View of the South Transit; the Crystal Palace Hotel—No. 5. Illustrations of Negative and Positive Photography; Karnak; a North Australian—No. 6. Norman Doorway; Gothic Window; Leopard and Antelope; Bust of Sigmund; the Pompeian Atrium; Bust of Sophocles—No. 7. The Apterix, and the Parrot; Greek Vestibule; the "Bull's-eye" Gallery; Façade of the Assyrian Court—No. 8. Group of Indians and Lion; Penguin, Swift, Bat, and Flamingo; South-west View of Palace; Roman Façade—No. 9. Ground-plan of Crystal Palace; Bust of Euripides; the Farnese Bull; Ghiberti Gates; Leopards Fighting; Crystal Palace Hotel; Pompeian Pattern—No. 10. Carved Oak Doorway, from the Italian Court; Vestibule of the Roman Court; the Iguanodon—No. 11. Inner Greek Court; View of the Palace and Grounds; the Inauguration Ceremony.

Erratum.—Page 140, line 1; for T. W. Fullom, read S. W. Fullom.

A GOOD EXAMPLE.—The local board of health for the parochial district of Regent's-square Church, St. Pancras, has just published their first half-year's report. "This document affords a striking proof of those evils which arise from the absence of proper sanitary arrangements in districts. Six hundred and thirty-nine separate sources of infection have been or are about to be abolished, by the removal of cess-pools, the renewal of drains, the trapping of sinks, and the removal of refuse. The board calculates that they have by these means closed, or are now causing to be closed, 1,344 square feet of excrementitious matter of an average depth of 2 feet 6 inches, the exhalations from which form the most injurious description of infectious effluvia. They have also caused, or are causing, to be removed or cleaned, 5,100 linear feet of house-drains. More than half of the works required to be done in the district are now completed, and the total expenses of the board have been *less than fifty pounds!* The example of this local board is worthy of being followed by other parishes, which call as loudly as St. Pancras for sanitary measures."

Home Industry and Art.

THE NORTH METROPOLITAN SUBTERRANEAN RAILWAY.—The preamble of the North Metropolitan Railway has been declared proved by a Committee of the House of Commons. The promoters had a hard battle to fight. The conflict lasted eleven days; but they triumphed in the end. This interesting and novel undertaking will commence at the General Post-office, in St. Martin's-le-Grand, and will proceed beneath the streets and roads of the metropolis all the way to the terminus of the Great Western Railway at Paddington. The entire distance of this subterranean railway will be four miles and a half. It will cross Smithfield and proceed along Fleet valley to the New-road, taking Coldbath-fields Prison in its way. For the removal of this building the promoters have made an arrangement with the Middlesex magistrates. The terms are, that the promoters of the railway, in return for the ground in Coldbath-fields, are to build a prison for the county of Middlesex, not less than six, and not more than nine miles from London—the building to contain accommodation for 1,500 prisoners, with 50 acres of ground attached, so that those of the prisoners who have not learned in-door trades may be made to perform rural labour, in accordance with the industrial principle on which the prison is conducted. Three miles of the North Metropolitan Railway will run underneath roads, or unoccupied property, which will considerably lessen the expenses incident to the construction of the line. The entire estimated cost, £1,000,000. The Subterranean Railway will join the Great Northern, the London and North Western and Great Western lines. The stations are to be at Victoria-street, Clerkenwell, King's-cross, Euston-square, Hampstead-road, Osnauburg-street, Baker-street, Edgware-road, and the Great Western Hotel, which will be a branch to the Great Western station. Trains will start every five minutes. The time required to perform the journey will be a quarter of an hour, and the fare for the whole distance will be twopenny for the third-class, fourpenny for the second-class, and sixpenny for the first-class carriages. The North Metropolitan Railway will, therefore, be a great accommodation to the people of London, and will, doubtless, have an immense traffic.

THE MANUFACTURE OF ARMS AT WOOLWICH.—The newspaper accounts of a visit paid to Woolwich by the King of Portugal and his brother, indicate the immense scale on which the manufacture of munition of war is now conducted. After a review, and inspection of the cadets, the illustrious visitors alighted at the Dial-square, where the boring of brass guns and finishing them is carried on. They were conducted over the department by Colonel Chalmers, Inspector of Artillery, and witnessed the whole of the processes from rough casting to the highly finished field-pieces. His Majesty also visited the foundry department, and witnessed the moulds laid for casting ten 24-pounder brass guns, which will require about 11½ tons of metal to be melted at one time to make the casting. From the foundry his Majesty and the Duke of Oporto proceeded to the laboratory department, over which they were conducted by Lieut.-Colonel Wilson, director, and Captain Boxer, firemaster. The Royal visitors appeared much gratified at the rapidity with which the percussion caps are manufactured, each boy with a die-press making 10,500 caps per day. After a short inspection of the mode of making spherical musket balls by compression, and Minnie balls by self-acting machinery, and the fitting of the fuzee screw to 8-inch shells, his Majesty left the laboratory and proceeded to the casting department, where he was received by Lieut.-Colonel Tulloh. The King observed with surprise, with some of the new machinery, especially a bolt-making hammer, which strikes 700 blows per minute on the red-hot malleable iron, and enables one man, with the aid of a circular saw, to execute the work of four men. The machinery was so interesting to his Majesty that he had not time to go over the whole, and he left the Royal Arsenal for town, after shaking hands cordially with Colonel Whinlats, at twenty minutes past 4 o'clock.

GIRVAN.—A new street or "place" has been erected at the Cross of this town, and the town buildings opposite, according to the *Ayr Advertiser*, are to be improved in front by being fitted up in "the Crystal Palace style."

IRON CHURCHES FOR AUSTRALIA.—Two iron churches in the building-yard of Robertson and Lister, Glasgow, are now about completed. They are of a similar size and general appearance, with the exception that one has got two spires, one on each side, and the other one spire, springing from the centre of the pediment. The chief feature of the front elevation is an arcade of ornamental columns and arches, standing out in bold relief, supporting a pediment, and flanked at the sides by massive towers, in which are placed the stairs leading to the galleries. The lower series of columns is roofed by a balcony, forming an open porch, where the access is to the church and to the stairs of the galleries. The dimensions of each church are 73 feet in length, and 45 feet in breadth. The interior is lighted on each side by a series of circular-headed windows, each twenty feet in length; and at the back by two large stained-glass windows. The vaulted ceiling, supported on cast-iron arched girders, springing from iron columns, rises to the height of 40 feet. The roof of the tiled ceiling will be placed iron or zinc perforated gratings, for ventilation. The external roof is formed of corrugated iron. These churches were preliminarily opened on Sunday week for Divine service.

THE STATUE OF PROFESSOR WILSON is to be an out-door statue, and in bronze. The committee are busy, and a London committee is talked of. No sculptor has yet been named.

THE EDINBURGH SCHOOL OF ART.—The annual distribution of prizes to the students attending the School of Design at Edinburgh, took place in the Royal Institution on Saturday week, in presence of a numerous and highly respectable assemblage. Professor T. S. Trail presided. On the walls were displayed specimens of the drawings of the students. During the past year the school, according to the report in the *Scotsman*, has been attended by 208 pupils, of whom 152 attended the department of ornamental architecture; 13 being painters, 3 sculptors, and eighteen architects and engineers, 75 artisans, and 43 teachers. The department of the antique, &c., has been attended by fifty-six students; 29 being painters, 2 sculptors, 2 architects and engineers, and 23 artisans. For the new classes for schoolmasters and schoolmistresses, and pupil teachers, upwards of fifty applications have been made.

Foreign Industry and Art.

THE EASTERN ARCHIPELAGO AND THE PARIS EXHIBITION.

The East India Company is apparently taking active measures to secure a complete exposition of Indian productions in Paris next year. Letters have been sent to the authorities in the several presidencies requesting them to assist the supreme Government in the matter.

The authorities at Singapore have appointed a local committee, of which the Governor is president; and the papers just received by the overland mail contain the report of the committee's first meeting. The Governor, in his address, calls upon all persons connected with the Straits to give their assistance by contributing any remarkable specimens of the skill and taste of the varied races of the Eastern Archipelago, wherein British influence extends. M. Gautier, the Consul for France, proposed to communicate with Cambodia with the same view. The Hon. T. Church, another member of the committee, reported that he had already written to Siam, Singapore, Ceylon, and Puhang, inviting the King of Siam, and the rajahs of the other places, to send contributions. The resident councillor at Malacca had furnished a list of articles procurable there and at Siac, and had been requested to send, amongst others, the following articles:—Musical instruments and arms; medicinal roots of the Jacouns; Indian stones, especially the soap stone; a collection of the skins of Malacca birds, with the Malagan name attached to each; and manufactures exhibiting superior workmanship.

Directions were given to procure some of the best inland work, together with illustrations of the mode of manufacture, from Pinang; also tortoise and mother-of-pearl shell.

The secretary reported having sent a letter to Sarawak, inviting a person at that place to undertake the purchase of the arms and manufactures of the Kyan Dyaks and other Borneo tribes—the apparatus of hunting, and a sacred jar of the Dyaks, and any article illustrative of their habits and customs.

These proceedings seem to hold out a fair prospect of securing a collection of the skins of the Malacca birds, with the Malagan name attached to each; and manufactures exhibiting superior workmanship. The collection will be not be lost to our merchants and traders to Singapore and its vicinity, by the productions being mixed up with those of the other parts of our Indian possessions. We know that their being thus amalgamated in our Great Exhibition gave great offence to the people of the Straits, who think, and we believe with reason, that these territories and their productions, natural and artificial, have a character sufficiently independent and distinct to entitle them to be set apart from those of the continent to which they are nominally attached, but, in matters of commerce, but little connected. The absorption of the products of the Archipelago into the mass of Indian contributions, will lessen the local interest felt in the Exhibition, and thus detract from the completeness of our Indian collection, which certainly deserves to be set before the world with all possible care and in the fullest manner.

There is this peculiar character about the productions of the Straits; first, that they present an almost inexhaustible supply; and, secondly, that many of them are but little known to the world, and are thus in the very condition in which their exhibition is likely to be of importance to our commercial interests.

BUDDH AT THE PARIS EXHIBITION.

His Majesty the King of Siam—we learn from the *Illustrated London News*—has sent to the Hon. Colonel Butterworth, C.B., Governor of the Straits Settlements, a very curious painting, or rather series of paintings, on cloth, representing a stone image of Buddha, as it appears at various seasons of the year, when its dress is changed. This image, it is said, is of very great antiquity, having been discovered in an ancient pagoda in the country of Lao Shiang, so far back as 518 years ago. It was taken into possession of and brought to Siam in 1779, by the grandfather of the present king. The dresses in which the image is periodically arrayed are of the most gorgeous description, but the sculpture of the image itself is said to be the most remarkable point about it, showing a very high state of art, surpassing the works of Buddhist sculptors of the present

century. The paintings will probably be transmitted by Colonel Butterworth to the Parisian Exhibition of 1855, where we have no doubt it will attract considerable attention, more especially as short descriptions in English of the objects it represents have been written upon it by the King of Siam himself.

The king is a good English scholar, and a man of considerable acquirements. He has a peculiar talent for arithmetic and mathematics; and his chief amusement is in making watches, for which purpose he has a complete workshop fitted up after the English fashion.

VICTORIA-BRIDGE, AT MONTREAL.—Among the events which future makers of almanacks will have to place to appropriate dates, that which took place on the 24th instant will, doubtless, most attract attention. We mean the first act in the construction of the Victoria-bridge—consummated on the birthday of the illustrious lady after whom the bridge has been named. Operations to be conducted in the water require, as a preliminary, temporary constructions, which will enclose a certain space, and the walls being made impervious to water, pumps are worked, and thus the area for the masonry is left clear. On Wednesday evening the first of these dams for the bridge was towed to the appointed place, and there securely moored, and thus the first step has been taken in, perhaps, the greatest monument of engineering skill which the world has ever seen. Of these coffer dams, four or five more are already made, and will be immediately set in position. They are, of course, works on which a great amount of labour has been bestowed, and promise to answer the purpose for which they are intended in every way. We have, therefore, to congratulate our citizens now that the operations for the bridge have fully commenced; and it requires only a few summers to pass for us to witness its completion, and a proud day will it be to Montreal when the first train passes over the Victoria-bridge.—*Montreal Transcript.*

CRYSTAL PALACE AT NAPLES.—The King of the Two Sicilies has just given his consent to the formation of a joint-stock company for the erection of a Crystal Palace at Naples. It is intended for a winter garden.

WEIGHTS, MEASURES, AND PRICES.

An influential deputation waited on Mr. Gladstone, on Tuesday last, to urge the necessity of a decimal coinage—exclusively, we believe, and not as a portion of an universal decimal system. Now we fear that the greater nuisance of accountants is not in the reckoning of money, but in the computing of weights and measures. Our coinage is the simplest of our tables, and pales before the marvellous complexities which beset land, drugs, and liquor. These latter occasionally run into fractions, and fractions, too, which are attached to odd numbers ("5½ yards make one perch"); thus making subdivision doubly delicate. What a puzzle to a foreigner must be the word pound! It signifies twenty shillings, or sixteen ounces avoirdupois weight, or twelve ounces Troy weight. The druggist gives it a particular meaning besides all these; and in various counties it is more or less valuable as a standard weight. But reform in these annoyances is tedious and difficult, although in the coinage the remedy is simple, obvious, and half-achieved.

With respect to the unit, there can be no question that the present unit should be preserved. We want only four coins descending decimally in value to keep our accounts with; and we have already two, the pound and the florin. We want two more, and the system would be perfect. The first and the best half of the work is done to our hands. The coins required for the perfection of the system are two, one representing the tenth of a florin, and the other representing the tenth of that. The figures 1111 would then represent one pound, one florin, one-tenth of a florin (call it a cent), and one-tenth of a cent (call it a mil). Take any other unit, and the pound and the florin at least would become practically useless. With the pound as a unit, nothing need be disturbed but the copper coinage, for although shillings, sixpences, fourpennies, and threepennies pieces would be banished from our system of accounts, they might be in use for a time for purposes of ordinary trade. Half-crowns, sixpences, fourpennies and threepennies pieces are in like manner, under the present system, not used in accounts, but only as change.

Mr. Gladstone told the deputation that the public feeling did not appear sufficiently strong to necessitate his taking measures for the introduction of so useful a change. He spoke of the press as not being very decided upon the point, and not very earnest. Certainly the war and the Crystal Palace are at this moment topics more absorbing, but a little while ago, when space was plentiful and reform in fashion, the journals were urging the topic very earnestly indeed.

Literature.

THE TWELFTH CENTURY.

Medieval Popes, Emperors, Kings, and Crusaders; or, Germany, Italy, and Palestine, from A.D. 1125 to A.D. 1268. By Mrs. WILLIAM BUSK, Author of "Manners and Customs of the Japanese," &c. Vol. I. London: Hookham.

THE resurrection of reputations which Milton prophesied and experienced, is not confined to persons—it has extended also to whole periods of time. There is, perhaps, no more remarkable change in the history of opinion than that which has taken place in respect to the Middle Ages of the Christian era. That they are no longer called the Dark Ages, is a circumstance of immense significance—an indication of change in our entire philosophy of history, as well as in our estimate of a particular period. The discovery of the western continent demonstrated the sphericity of the earth, as well as rescued half a world from the obscurity of ocean. It served to correct our theory as well as to enlarge our knowledge. So has the modern perception of "ages of unknown merit" in the ages that elapsed between the establishment and the reformation of the Papacy, corrected the idea of retrogression in human affairs, and disclosed to our admiration regions of light where only darkness reigned before.

It is in the eleventh, twelfth, and thirteenth centuries that we find the most marked characteristics of the civilization that was born in the fifth or sixth centuries, survived to the fifteenth, and has transmitted some of its features even to the nineteenth century. It was among the ruins of the Roman empire that the Herculean twins of Feudalism and the Papacy were cradled. It was in the forests of the free though barbarous Germanic races, that Feudalism was nurtured into a rude strength. It was in the indestructible influence of the departed Cæsars' power, that the Papacy found the means of realizing an idea of heavenly origin. When of empire nothing remained but the empty name, and of municipal liberty nothing but the melancholy traditions, the Church was already exerting an universal authority; and the Teutonic tribes enjoying an hereditary freedom from arbitrary rule. By making the language of the Roman capital the sacred terminology of all her ministers, the Church succeeded to the dominion of the West,—and by carrying with them their native institutions, the Germanic conquerors of Italy and England insured their own subsequent subjugation to another law than that of force. Thus, far back as we can ascend by the light of archeology or history, we find the traces of religious catholicity and political independence—even in the sixth and seventh centuries. In the eighth and ninth centuries, these traces become more distinct as the light in which they are viewed becomes more powerful. With the tenth century, according to the general belief of Christendom, the world was to come to an end; yet the progress of civilization did not pause. The subsequent history of Europe is known to us all, because it is the history of our own island—the history of a career of unresting improvement in the best interests of humanity; even aided by the events which seemed to interrupt and even to destroy it.

It was in the middle of the eleventh century that the Seljukian Mahometans made their first stride towards the possession of Constantinople, and William the Norman obtained at a blow the mastery of the people who had long baffled the Romans and had driven out the Danes. By the same era, the dominion of the Moslem Arabs was ebbing away from the south-west extremity of Europe, and shortly afterwards the first great crusade was commenced. Then were seen the anomalous spectacles of a German emperor of Rome at war with his Christian bishop; a Christian king at Jerusalem supported by levies from the farthest end of Europe; and a Flemish count on the throne of Constantinople. The crusades gave birth to the orders of military montery, and the second great heresy of Christendom to the orders of mendicant friars. Chivalry arose to modify, by its fantastic code of major and minor morals, the severity of feudal ideas. Troubadours and pilgrims scattered over Europe, from the orient, the seeds of a new literature and commerce. Upon the East itself was de-

scending the deluge of Tartar invasion; to be succeeded by the irruption upon Europe of a more permanent, and scarce less devastating flood, in the form of Turkish conquest; while, by the incessant conflict of Hungarian and Pole, were weakened the natural ramparts of Christendom against the aggressions of Mussulman armour on the one hand, and Muscovite barbarism on the other.

It is the history of the century and a half thus fruitful in great events, and, consequently, in great men, that Mrs. Busk has undertaken to write. Already favourably known as a writer in several departments of literature, there was no presumption in the attempt. Nor did the works of previous, and some of them eminent writers, render this superfluous. Hallam, Turner, Mill, Guizot, Sismondi, Thierry—the principal of these writers known to the English reader—have by no means fully repaired the deficiencies or corrected the errors of Gibbon and Robertson, immense as have been their services; still less have they superseded the necessity for briefer, more accessible treatises; while the mediæval knowledge and speculation accumulated by German industry, or constructed by German ingenuity, constitute an almost unworked mine. It is to this that Mrs. Busk has repaired—not for the purpose of wholesale reproduction, but of artistic manipulation. In her own rather too feminine phrase, she has "skimmed the cream" of Teutonic erudition, "in order from thence, and from other sources, to compound a dish more adapted to compatriot palates." The array of authorities prefixed to the first volume, indicates extensive lingual acquirements and indefatigable research. The four pages thus placed in the van are not stationed there to keep off the arrows of criticism—as the Egyptians put the symbols of divinity sacred to all the East on the battlements of a besieged fortress. The candid reader of her work must recognise on every page much of faithful labour and a conscientious taste. Despite a careless use of words, and somewhat intricate disposition of topics, it is a work that will richly repay time bestowed on its perusal, and that ought to render the authoress as popular as she is already highly esteemed. We particularly commend it to the student of the mediæval architecture and statuary of the Crystal Palace.

One of the most interesting and important chapters of this volume—especially to the student just indicated—is that devoted to the state of literature and the arts in the first quarter of the twelfth century. Even before Dante or Chaucer had written, there was a literature worth writing over many a classic manuscript—a not uncommon resort of authorship when the paper-mill was as unknown as the press. Philosophers, as well as priests and statesmen, were Lanfranc and Anselm. Something more than superstitious annalists were the monastic chroniclers. Something more than an erudite sophist, Abelard, of melancholy celebrity. These were of the West. In the East, the daughter of an emperor did not disdain to use the pen of the historian; and the Moslems more than repaired at Cordova the wrong they had done at Alexandria, instituting a school and colleges as well as collecting an enormous library. Of the condition of the arts, our authoress shall speak for herself:—

"The Fine Arts have been usually considered as yet more extinct than literature, during the period that intervenes betwixt the fall of classic antiquity and the eleventh century; that is to say, throughout Western Europe; for in the East Roman Empire they are allowed to have been still lingering out a decrepit existence. Moreover, when, in the eleventh century, the dim, grey dawn of a new day began to recall them from this supposed state of suspended animation to again incipient life, only Greek artists, it has been asserted, were employed, there being, in fact, no others. And this agrees, in some measure, with Kunob's persuasion, that the subjugation of Italy to the East Roman conquest, and the Christian was more injurious to Italian art than her conquest by the Goths. Nevertheless, both opinions are disputed, and the laboriously careful Tiraboschi holds the second to be sufficiently confuted by the occasional, and only occasional, naming of Greek artists; whence he argues that, whenever employed, they were named (perhaps in the ordinary vulgar vanity of having been served by a foreigner); and that the unnamed were always compatriots, as such he cheaply supposes. In fact, the question may be held one of degree merely, to wit, of the degree of artistic skill indispensable to constitute a work of art. This degree was certainly very low during those early ages, as the wonders of architecture, painting, and sculpture reported to have adorned the northern Vandalia, may, it is presumed, be safely ascribed to the combined ignorance and exaggeration of their admirers. In a state

such as has been surmised, a few words upon each of the separate Arts will suffice for this sketch; and architecture, having been the first to revive, must take the lead.

"It has been asserted that up to the eleventh century churches were so universally built of wood, that any and every stone church was especially mentioned as a subject of admiration. The recollection of the many heathen temples converted into churches at Rome, indeed throughout Italy, of the Basilica St. John Lateran, the very Cathedral of Rome, the *Ecclesia urbis et orbis* metropolis of the Basilica built, and adorned with mosaics, as early as the fifth and sixth centuries, especially at Rome and Ravenna; in England, of the Abbey of St. Alban's, founded, if not completed, by Offa, King of Mercia, and the paintings of Hoptarchy Kings; even the mention of the cathedral of the island, in the eighth century, of Charlemagne's cathedral at Aix la Chapelle, and some few others, induces a start at this assertion. Nevertheless, these are but the exceptions; Germany, at least, of which the asserter perhaps chiefly thought, was all but destitute of such; and certainly during the last half of the tenth century no one thought of building or repairing permanent churches, in a world so soon to perish. In the beginning of the eleventh century, when the dark epoch of the past, and men rejoiced in an indefinite prolongation of existence, the impassioned religious and patriotic feelings of the age, stimulated by gratitude for the escape of "this great globe itself," and all that it inherited "from destruction, took the peculiar turn which gradually decorated so many towns in Italy, Germany, France, England, and Spain, with magnificent cathedrals. Even during the period of despondence the Freemasons, it is averred—whether this mystic fraternity were the progeny of the mysteries of classic heathenism, or the offspring of the middle ages associated throughout Europe had carefully preserved their fraternal union and the principles of their art; they were ready therefore to second and to guide the impulse, which only very long before, in the sixth century, the Byzantine taste, imbibed in her constant intercourse with Constantinople; and so energetically was the work carried on that in the first quarter of the ensuing twelfth century this church was completed, though the interior decoration was still incomplete. Bologna possesses the venerable dome of St. Peter's; at Parma, Modena, and a few more places in that part of the peninsula, their respective cathedrals, with their cavern-like doorways, the front pillars resting upon the massive columns, and the mysterious emblem, according to Mrs. Jameson, not as yet unriddled. . . . In Germany, in the tenth century, Conrad II. built the cathedral of Spire, Henry III. that of Goslar; Archbishop Adalbert of Bremen invited Italian architects to build his church after the model of that of Benevento; and some others were begun. In Hungary the canonized king St. Stephen, built the cathedral at Raab. In England Gundulph, a monk of the Abbey of Evesham, in the twelfth century, the Bishop of Rochester, and who proved an eminent architect as well as an excellent prelate, built his own cathedral with an adjacent monastery, Rochester Castle, which he gave William Rufus, the abbey churches of Reading and of Malling, and the chapel within the Keep of the Tower of London, nearly by the end of the eleventh century. Winchester, Durham, Gloucester, and two or three more were likewise built, as was Westminster Hall, in the first quarter of the twelfth. In Spain Alfonso VI. was excited, perhaps, by the magnificent mosque of Cordova, begun by Abderrahman I. in the eighth century, finished by his successors in the ninth, and imitated throughout Spain, invited a German architect to rebuild the cathedral of Leon, as did his daughter Urraca two, a Roman and a Burgundian, to build one at Avila.

"Painting never was so dead that there were not persons, calling themselves artists, who undertook to decorate churches with pictures of saints and of holy families. These were seen in some of the most venerable of the oldest churches, especially in Rome and throughout Italy, as they are in the gallery of the Academy of Florence, and in the Boisseree division of the Pinakothek at Munich, which supply a history of the graphic art from its infant attempts in rude and unskilful figures upon a golden background—devoid of all idea of drawing, anatomy, perspective, and the like, but not without life, expression, and even character—through all its stages of progress, to the fulness of its perfection."

SYDNEY SMITH ON "TASTE."

Selections from the Writings of the Rev. Sydney Smith. (Traveller's Library, Nos. 61 and 62.) London: Longman and Co.

THESE two numbers of a serial which has popularized some of the choicest of the modern English classics, contain articles, letters, or lectures on the following subjects:—Education, the Ballot, American Debts, Wit and Humour, the Conduct of the Understanding, Taste. On every one of these topics Sydney Smith has written much that tempts to comment and transcription—for if his topic were not one of abiding interest he would enbalm it by his wisdom and wit; and however universal its importance, and, therefore, frequent its treatment, he would say about it something not to be forgotten. Thus, in the almost savagely severe epistles provoked by that unhappy episode in American history, Pennsylvania repudiation, he reads a lesson on political morality to all countries and ages; and concentrates those lessons in a sentence of quite unique eloquence:—

"It is not for Gin Sling and Sherry Cobblers alone that man is to live, but for those great principles against which no argument can be listened to—principles which give to every power a double power above their functions and their offices, which are the books, the arts, the academies that teach, lift up, and nourish the world—principles (I am quite sure) in our hands, above every superior to cotton, higher than currency—principles without which it is better to die than to live, which every

servant of God, over every sea and in all lands, should cherish—*usque ad ultima spiramenta amica.*

On "Wit and Humour," he could not write without exemplifying in nearly every line the qualities he had undertaken to describe. On the "Conduct of the Understanding," he enunciates principles so luminous and maxims so important, that we feel it is the laughing philosopher no more—that we are in the company rather of a Socrates than a Democritus.

We intended, however, to have devoted the whole of this article to his lecture on taste, whose simplicity of definition and beauty of language alike commend it to our admiration. Taking the metaphor at its literal value, he says of it, "It is a mere word of classification, including several distinct feelings of the mind, exactly as the primary taste includes several distinct feelings of the body. It includes the feeling of beauty in all its very numerous meanings, the feeling of novelty, the feeling of grandeur, the feeling of sublimity, the feeling of propriety, and perhaps many others." He limits the applicability of the expression to these subjects—reprobating, with an almost superfluous sternness, the reference of moral questions to a faculty so dependent on culture. And further, he confines its use to matters of volition; to actions or states in which there is liberty of the will. He contends against Alison, and others, that taste does not depend upon accidental associations, but upon a constitutional faculty. And this he argues with a pleasantness that gradually rises into impressive eloquence:—

"It appears to me very singular to say, that matter can never exert any emotion upon the senses, and that we can only apply to it the expressions of sensation and perception. The theory of this school is, that Providence has created a great number of objects which it intends to excite in us feelings of taste, and which without caring a single breath whether you exercise your senses upon them or not; that all the primary impulses of the mind must be mere intelligences, unaccompanied by any emotion of pleasure; that pleasure might be added to them after the manner of an accident, but that originally, and according to the scheme of nature, the senses were the channels of intelligence, never the sources of gratification. This doctrine was certainly never conceived in a land of luxury. I should like to try a Scotch gentleman upon his first arrival in this country, with the taste of ripe fruit, and leave him to judge after that whether nature had confined the senses to such dry and ungracious occupations, as whether mere matter could produce emotion. Such doctrines may do very well in the chambers of a northern metaphysician, but they are untenable in the light of the world: they are refuted, nobly refuted, twenty times in a year, at Fishmongers' Hall. If you deny that matter can produce emotion, judge on these civic occasions of the power of gusts, and relishes, and flavours. Look at men when the Bishop (Taylor says) they are 'gathered round the eels of Syrene, and the oysters of Lucrinus, and when the Lord and the Countess, through the limbeck of the tongue and larynx; when they receive the juice of fishes, and the marrow of the laborious ox, and the tender lard of Apulian swine, and the condited stomach 'tis scarce;—is this nothing but mere sensation? is it not emotion, no passion, no yearning, no delight? is this the calm acquisition of intelligence, and the quiet emotion ascribed to the senses?—or is it a proof that Nature has infused into her original creations the power of feeling that sense which distinguishes them, and to every atom of his first shalies an atom of joy."

"That there are some tastes originally agreeable, I think can hardly be denied; and that Nature has, originally, and independently of all associations, made some sounds more agreeable than others, seems to me, I produce, equally clear. I never believe that any man could sit in a pensive mood listening to the sharpening of a saw, and think it as naturally agreeable, and as plaintive, as the song of a linnet; and I should very much suspect that philosophy, which teaches that the odour of superannuated Cheshire cheese is, by the constitution of nature, and antecedent to all connexion of other ideas, as agreeable as that smell with which the flowers of the field thank heaven for the gentle rains, or as the fragrance of the spring when we inhale it from afar 'the milk-white thorn that scents the evening gale.'"

The paragraph that follows this is too long for quotation entire; but we cannot pass over these extremely forcible illustrations of the partial dependence of sensation upon association:—

"The sound of a trumpet suggests the dreadful idea of battle, and of the approach of armed men; but to all men brought up at Queen's College, Oxford, it must be associated with eating and drinking, for they are always called to dinner by sound of trumpet: and I have a little daughter at home, were it she heard the sound of a trumpet, would run to the window, expecting to see the puppet-show of Punch, which is carried about the streets. So with a hiss: a hiss is either foolish, or tremendous, or suspicious. The hissing of a pancake is absurd; the first faint hiss that arises from the extremity of the pit on the evening of a new play sinks the soul of the author within him, and makes him curse himself and his Thalia; the hissing of a cobra di capello is sublime—it is the whisper of death!"

He would seem here to have proved his opponent's case; but no! He goes on to argue undismayed for the inheritance of beauty, sublimity, and so on, in certain objects;—and his

eloquence must move if his reasoning does not convince:—

"Certainly on such subjects cannot be attained; but I, for one, strongly believe in the affirmative of the question—that Nature speaks to the mind of man immediately in beautiful and sublime language; that she astonishes him with magnitude, appals him with darkness, cheers him with splendour, soothes him with harmony, captivates him with emotion, enchants him with fume; she never intended man should walk among her flowers, and her fields, and her streams, unmoved; nor did she rear the strength of the hills in vain, or mean that we should look on the wild glory of the forest, bursting from the darkness of the forest, and dashing over the crumbling rock. I would as soon deny hardness, or softness, or figure, to be qualities of matter, as I would deny beauty or sublimity to belong to its qualities."

"Every man is as good a judge of a question like this as the ablest metaphysician. Walk in the fields in one of the mornings of May, and if you carry with you a mind unpolluted with harm, watch how it is impressed. You are delighted with the beauty of colours; you are enraptured by the beauty of form; you breathe vegetable fragrance; is not that fragrance grateful? You see the sun rising from behind a mountain, and the heavens painted with light; is not that revelation of the light of the morning sublime? You reject all obvious reasons, and say that these things are beautiful and sublime, because the accident of life made them so;—I say they are beautiful and sublime, BECAUSE GOD HAS MADE THEM so; that it is the original, indelible character pressed upon them by him, who has opened these sources of simple pleasure, to calm perhaps, the perturbations of sense, and to make us love that joy which is purchased without giving pain to another man's heart, and without entailing reproach upon our own."

The concluding portion of the lecture argues the standard of taste. Admitting the independent existence of the faculty, we must yet admit that it requires education; and education is only the drawing out to a certain height. The different estimation by different persons of a sign-board and a picture by Raphael, does not disprove that both have a taste for beauty, but only that the palate is in the one refined, in the other vitiated. Who shall be the judge? Let our witty author answer in a sentence:—"If the species of beauty be stated, and a standard required for its excellences and defects, I determine it by voting, by no means admitting universal suffrage, but requiring that a man shall have forty shillings a year in common sense, and have paid the usual taxes of labour, attention, observation, and so on." And, in conclusion, let us rejoice with him that the distinctness and authority of the desired standard increases with the growth of humanity; and that victories once gained for art can never be revoked:—

"The progress of good taste, however, though it is certain, is slow, and is slow. Mistaken pleasure, false ornament, and affected conduct, perish by the discriminating hand of time, that lifts up from the dust of oblivion the grand and simple efforts of genius. Title, rank, prejudice, party, artifice, and a thousand disturbing forces, are always at work to counteract the good; but every recurring year contributes its remedy to these infringements on justice and good sense. The breath of living acclamation cannot reach the ages which are to come, and the justness of the just is no more; justice is extinguished; party is forgotten; and the mild yet inflexible decisions of taste, will receive nothing, as the price of praise, but the solid exertions of superior talent. Justice is pleasant, even when she destroys. It is a tedious homage to common sense, to see those who are so anxious hastening to that oblivion, in their progress to which they should never have been retarded. But, it is much more pleasant to witness the power of taste in the work of preservation and lasting praise;—to think that, in these fleeting and evanescent feelings of the beautiful and the sublime, men have discovered something as fixed and as positive, as if they were measuring the flow of the tides, or weighing the stones on which they tread;—to think that there lives not, in the civilized world, a being who knows in vain a move, and who knows in vain the words of Virgil and Homer have written, that Raffaele has painted, and that Tully has spoken. Intrenched in these everlasting bulwarks against barbarism, Taste points out to the rage of men, as they spring up in the order of time, on what path they shall guide the labour of the human spirit. Here she is safe; hence she never can be driven while one atom of matter clings to another, and man, with all his wonderful system of feeling and thought is called away to Him who is the great Author of all that is beautiful, and all that is sublime, and all that is good!"

SUBTERRANEAN DISCOVERIES IN NOTTINGHAM.—In taking down some buildings in Stoney-street, in this town, about 10 feet below the surface, the workmen found a cave, about 25 feet long by 18 feet wide. It has a groined roof, and is supported in the centre by a pile of earth, one of the natural sand-rock. This pillar has four shafts, one of them being entirely detached, after the style of architecture which prevailed in the thirteenth century. Over it is an incised cross. It is conjectured that this was one of the places used by the Roman Catholics for worshipping in secret at the Reformation. Similar discoveries were lately made in Stanford-street. The prevailing stratum near Nottingham is new red sandstone, and some parts of the rock are so soft as to be capable of being easily excavated. The original name was Snotengham, that is, the home or place of cavers.

EDUCATIONAL EXHIBITION.

At a general meeting of the committee of this exhibition, held on Saturday afternoon, at the Society of Arts, John-street, Adelphi, Mr. Harry Chester (in the absence of Earl Granville) in the chair, a report was received from the sub-committee as to the progress they had made in carrying out the principles of the undertaking. The foreign countries that had co-operated were France, seven cantons of Switzerland, Holland, Belgium, Sweden, Denmark and Norway, Malta, Connecticut; Philadelphia, and seven lectures in the latter country only private individuals, Sweden, Denmark, and Connecticut had sent their commissioners—Messrs. Siljeström, Fogh, and Hon. H. Barnard. The report stated—"The exhibition would take place at St. Martin's Hall, which had been hired till the 20th of September, and its fittings, which had been attended with great expense to the Council, were under the direction of Mr. Thomas Obbit. The available space on the ground was 3,346 feet, and on the wall 12,000 feet. The exhibition would be opened on the 4th of July, when Prince Albert would attend, and invitations would be sent to all the members of the Educational Committee and the examiners. The inaugural address, on "The Material Helps of Education," would be given by Dr. Whewell, and seven lectures on "The Sequence of the Sciences" would subsequently be delivered by Professors Cressy, Morgan, Forbes, Huxley, Henfrey, Latham, and Lionel Playfair. On Wednesdays and Saturdays, when school-masters might attend, as they had generally half-holidays on those days, discussions on subjects connected with education would be held at 2 o'clock in the afternoon; on other days at 5. To facilitate the admission of schools, and to induce masters and mistresses to profit by the exhibition and the lectures in connexion with it, the Society of Arts intended to make their room in John-street, Adelphi, a kind of club, where food would be provided, and, if possible, the committee had met with great indulgence from the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, who will admit all articles free of duty."

SATURDAY EARLY CLOSING MOVEMENT.

A WELL-ATTENDED meeting of those engaged in promoting the Saturday early closing movement, was held at the Offices, on Monday evening. Mr. S. Westbrook, from Messrs. J. and K. Morley's of Wood-street, occupied the chair, and read over a list of houses which, on Saturday last, had generously fallen in with the principles of the movement, some closing their warehouses at two, and others at three o'clock. It appeared to be the opinion that, on the coming Saturday, the list of houses closing early would be greatly increased, and that the alteration would soon become all but, if not quite, universally adopted in the wholesale trade.

Mr. Lilwall observed that he had no doubt but a vast number of the persons thus already and about to be opportunely released from an early hour on Saturday would rejoice to avail themselves of the attractions held out by the Crystal Palace, provided the Directors of that company so far modified their arrangements as they may be admitted, which could be effected either by cheapening the terms of admission on Saturdays, or by a further extension of the principle already adopted—of raising the price of season tickets where a large number are taken.

It was suggested by Mr. Westbrook that if neither of the foregoing plans were acceptable to the Directors, possibly an arrangement might be made to admit persons at a lower rate after a given hour on Saturdays.

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTION BILL.—By the bill before the House of Commons, brought in by Mr. Hall, for affording greater facilities for procuring and settling sites and buildings for literary and scientific institutions;—it is proposed, that land not exceeding an acre, whether built upon or not, may be granted in fee or for years for such a purpose by any person seized in fee or for life, having the present beneficial interest, provided that if the grant be made by a tenant for life, the person next entitled, in remainder, if legally competent, shall consent. The duration of the lease shall be 19 months, or such a term as such a purpose is not to invalidate the deed. Such institutions are to sue or be sued in the name of the president or chairman; a judgment to be only put in force against the property of the institution. A member may be sued or prosecuted as a stranger. Institutions not authorized by their own rules to alter, amend, or abridge the purpose for which they were established, are nevertheless to have power to do so with the consent of two-thirds of the members present at a meeting duly convened according to the regulations to consider the subject, unless the Charity Commissioners, on the appeal of one-fourth of the members, forbid the proceeding as calculated to prove injurious to the institution. Three-fourths of the members may determine that the society shall be dissolved, and any surplus of property shall be given to some other institution; disputes respecting the adjustment of the affairs to be referred to the judge of the County Court.

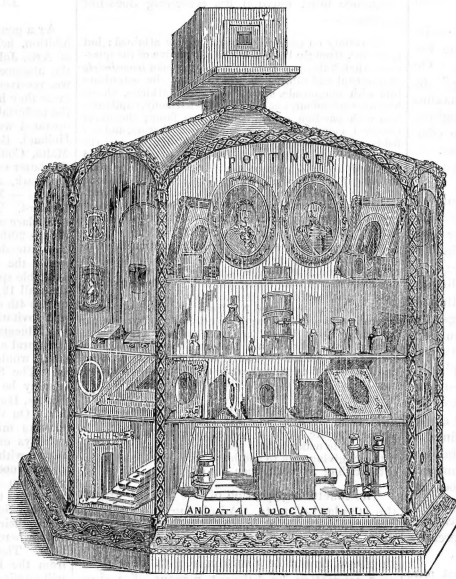
A PAINTER'S BILL.—The following is a true copy of a painter's bill, at Cirencester, Gloucestershire, delivered to the parish ward of an adjoining parish:—

MR. CHARLES FERBER (Churchwarden of Saddington) to JOSEPH COOK, Dr.

To mending the Commandments—altering the Belief and making a new Lord's Prayer..... £1 0

VACANT GROUND NEAR ST. PAUL'S.

—On Monday and Tuesday: he committee appointed by the Institute of British Architects, consisting of Sir Charles Barry, Messrs. Donaldson, Angell, Penrose, Scoles Nelson, and most of the leading architects, headed by the chairman of the committee, Mr. Tite, had interviews with Sir W. Molesworth and Lord Palmerston, in order to solicit the support of the Government to this most desirable improvement. The proposal for leaving open this land met with the most decided approval of both the Ministers, who promised their cordial support, as well on the grounds of public convenience and health as on the artistic grounds which are now so distinctly felt and acknowledged by every one who has seen the Cathedral from this spot. The authorities of the Cathedral are willing to co-operate in this movement and in a large scheme of improvement in that neighbourhood. It appears that the Commissioners of Sewers and the Corporation have arranged for continuing Aldersgate-street southwards, so as to set back the whole eastern end of Chesape as soon as the leases of the two houses standing there have run out, and a plan was submitted to Lord Palmerston by which this communication was proposed to be carried to a new bridge (on a site often suggested) at the bottom of Old Change, by which a great communication across the city from north to south would be effected, and the whole east end and south side of St. Paul's completely thrown open. It has been suggested by some members of the corporation that the means of effecting a considerable part of these improvements might be found by continuing the coal-tax for one year after 1862, at which time it expires. The rate of 1s. 1d. per annum, produces now about £180,000 per annum; of which the proportion arising from 9d. per ton is paid to the Government and the Commissioners of Woods and Forests for improvements in other parts of the metropolis, and the remaining 4d. is reserved to the corporation for the improvement of New Cannon-street.



PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION.

We have selected a representation of the space occupied with the exhibition of photographic and photographic apparatus by Mr. Pottinger, Ludgate-hill. The place from which this sketch is taken is situated in the gallery on the south-west side of the centre transept and close to the model of the suspension bridge. Every material requisite for daguerrotypes and calotypes may be procured there, and information will be given to those who are desirous of a thorough knowledge of this useful and interesting accomplishment. We are informed that he is sole agent for the American daguerrotype materials, which are considered superior to the English or French.

Worlds worth Remembering.

RESISTANCE TO SOCIAL PROGRESS BY MISTAKEN PIETY.—The establishment of the Royal Society was opposed because it was asserted that "experimental philosophy was subversive of the Christian faith," and the readers of Disraeli will remember the telescope and microscope were stigmatized as "atheistical inventions which pervert the truth, and made everything appear in a false light." What ridicule and incredulity, what persevering opposition greeted Jenner when he commenced the practice of vaccination! So late as 1806 the Anti-Vaccination Society denounced the discovery as "the cruel despotic tyranny of forcing cow-pox misery on the innocent babes of the poor—a gross violation of religion, morality, law, and humanity." Learned and properly printed statements that vaccinated children became "ox-faced," that abscesses broke out to "indicate sprouting horns," that the countenance was gradually "transmuted into the visage of a cow, the voice into the bellowing of bulls"—that the character underwent "strange mutations from quadrupedal sympathy." The influence of religion was called in to strengthen the prejudices of ignorance, and the operation was denounced from the pulpit as "diabolical," as a "tempting of God's providence, and therefore a heinous crime," as an "invention of Satan," a "daring and profane violation of our holy religion," a "wresting out of the hands of the Almighty the divine dispensation of providence," and its abettors were charged with sorcery and atheism. When fanners were first introduced to assist in winnowing the corn from the chaff by producing artificial currents of air, it was argued that "winds were raised by God alone, and it was irreligious in man to attempt to raise wind for himself, and by efforts of his own." One Scottish clergyman actually refused the holy communion to those of his parishioners who thus irreverently raised the "Devil's wind." Few of the readers of "Old Mortality" will forget how much Maule Headrigg's indignation when it was proposed that her son Cuddie should work in the barn with a new-fangled machine for lighting the corn gave the chaff, thus impiously thwarting the will of Divine Providence by raising wind for your lordship's ain particular use by human art instead of solely by prayer, or waiting patiently for whatever dispensation of wind Providence was pleased to send upon the sheeling hill. A route has just been successfully opened by Panama between the Atlantic and Pacific. In 1588 a priest named Acosta wrote respecting a proposal then made for this very undertaking, that it was his opinion that "human power should not be allowed to cut through the strong and impenetrable bounds which God has put between the two oceans, of mountains and iron rocks, which can stand the fury of the raging seas. And, if it were

possible, it would appear to me very just that we should fear the vengeance of Heaven for attempting to improve that which the Creator in his almighty will and providence has ordained from the creation of the world." When forks were first introduced into England some preachers denounced their use "as an insult on Providence not to touch our meat with our fingers."—*Scottish Review.*

THE PERENNIAL IN HISTORY.—The doctrine of a divine providence is the postulate of history. That there is a machinery of circumstance in which events are wheels that work into and move each other, and that these wheels come round with a nice calculation, and fall exactly into the nick, or notch, of time, no one can doubt who has read the book of Esther, and duly generalized its teaching. In ordinary history we have only such an idea of this complication of movements as we receive of the human frame from an inspection of the anatomical Venus; but in that book the actual machinery is exposed—the knife of a skillful surgeon has laid bare the breast of a living subject—the organs are seen not only *in situ*, but in action—every movement is patent, and all the finer vessels are in play.—*Ibid.*

THE PERENNIAL IN HISTORY.—History, as a record of the transactions of man, has a double source, answering to his two-fold nature, intellectual and emotional. It accordingly contains, besides a continual supply of new materials, an element which is always the same. In so far as the actions of men are described there is something "ever changing, ever new;" in so far as these facts are referred to the motives that produced them, the novelty disappears. For the emotional nature of man is the same in the nineteenth century that it was when Abraham entertained angels in Mamre, and Sarah laughed at their talk; that laugh will never be unintelligible. Nothing in the book of Job—a book which scholars consider the oldest outbirth of the literary mind—is better remembered than the pathos with which the Patriarch of Uz expresses his longing for the place where the wicked cease from troubling and the weary are at rest; but who that did not know the date of this utterance would refer it to so primitive an age? Why, the words might have been groined out by the libertine that expired yesterday; they might have been sung in every cathedral in Christendom to-day. The web of history thus has its longitudinal threads stretching through all time, while it receives from the time present those transverse materials with which the pattern of to-day is wrought. These are new; they are found in the journals of the day. But if you wish to get at the tone of moral feeling that prevails at any period, we must turn to literature in its restricted sense—we must read the books that ladies then read—the songs that were sung at festive gatherings—the plays that were represented on the stage.—*Ibid.*

ROYAL BOTANIC SOCIETY, REGENT'S PARK.—The second fête, in the gardens of the above society, during this season, was held on Monday. The show of flowers was above the average description. The chief competitors in stove and green-house plants were Mr. Colyer, of Dartford, Mr. Scott, of Leyton, Sir E. Antrobus, and Mr. Rea, by their respective gardeners, Messrs. May, Gilham, Green, and Speed. In the orchids, which were very good indeed, the contest lay between Mr. Colyer, Mr. Warner, of Hoddesdon, Mr. Ker, of Cheshunt, Messrs. Rollison, and Mr. Carson. The roses were remarkably fine, and the large array of pelargoniums would have been perfectly dazzling had their been sufficient sunshine to throw more brightness into the colour of the blossoms. The fruit, however, as usual, formed the most attractive feature, and undeniably did the utmost credit to the horticultural skill of the growers, among whom were the gardeners of the Dukes of Norfolk and Sutherland, the Earl of Mansfield, Sir C. Guest, and others. The bands in attendance were those of the Royal Blues and the 1st and 2nd Life Guards. The fête was honoured by the presence of her Majesty and Prince Albert, accompanied by the Prince of Wales and Prince Alfred; the Royal Stables, and by the Hon. Miss Byng, Maid of Honour to the Queen, and General Bockley and Captain the Hon. D. de Ros, Equerries in Waiting. Their Royal Highnesses the Duchess of Cambridge and Princess Mary were also present on the occasion. Among the general visitors were: the Dukes of Bedford and Devonshire, the Marquis of St. Alban's, Hamilton, Bedford, Prince Gholam Mahomed, Meer Jaffer Ali Khan Bahadour, Marquis of Exeter, Marchioness of Huntly, Lord Blance, the Bishop of Winchester, the Countess of Bradford, the Countess of Essex, and the Dowager Countess of Essex, the Greek Minister, &c.

A WONDERFUL MAX.—Richard Arkwright, it would seem, was not a beautiful man—a romance here, haughty eyes, Apollo lip, and gesture like the herald Mercury; a plain, almost gross, bag-checked, pot-bellied Lancashire man, with an air of painful reflection, yet also of copious free digestion; a man stationed by the community to shave certain dusty beards in the northern parts of England at a halfpenny each. To such end, we may say, by far the most oversight, accident, and arrangement, had Richard Arkwright been, by the community of England and his own consent, set apart. Nevertheless, in strapping razors, in lathering of dusty beards, and the contradictions and confusions attendant thereon, the man had notions in that rough head of his; spindles, shuttles, wheels, and contrivances plying ideally within the same; rather hopeless looking, without difficulty, His townsfolk rose in mob round him for threatening to shorten wages, so that he had to fly, with broken washpots, scattered household, and seek refuge elsewhere. Nay, his wife, too, as I learn, rebelled; burned his wooden model of his spinning-wheel, resolved that he should stick to his razors rather—for which, however, he decisively, as thou wilt rejoice to understand, packed her out of doors. O reader! what a historical phenomenon is that bag-checked, pot-bellied, much-enduring, much-inventing barber! French revolutions were a-brewing; to resist the same in any measure Imperial Kaisers were impotent with the cotton and cloth of England; and it was this man that did to give England the power of cotton.—*Thomas Carlyle.*

AN IRISHMAN'S WINDOW.—A gentleman, a clergyman in the neighbourhood of Bristol, who has property in Ireland, was some time ago written to by his agent there, who stated that there was an old fellow who had been a very long time occupying a cottage, or rather a cabin, on the estate, and whom they thought they ought to try to make more comfortable by giving him a window to the house, as the tenement was without that luxury—a door to let in the owner, and a hole in the thatch to let out the smoke, being the sole openings for air or light to the building. The landlord wrote to say "by all means;" and on visiting the property very recently, he found the old man in company with the agent; but on looking round he could find no cover no window, so he asked what had become of it, and whether it had been put in. "Yes," replied the agent, "it is all safe enough; I have it up in the loft at home. I had it put in with the intention of making the old man happy; but after it was in awhile, he begged to have it out as he said he had lived so long without a window, he could not feel comfortable with one; he was not used to it, and did not like it, so he hoped I would have it removed, and the place stopped up; so I had it done."—*Bristol Times.*

